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Amir opens National Council

Reconsider past, build present, outline future prospects

KUWAIT, July 9, (Kuna): His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah today officially inaugurated the 75-member National Council with a key speech in which he outlined the main tasks of the council.

"Your august council is a fruit of intensified dialogue with all segments of the people and with it we open a new chapter of legislative

Sheikh Jaber noted that the diversified cultures represented in the council and integration among the deputies along with co-operation with the executive power would be able to view life from different angles focussing on one great target: the interest of Kuwait in security, stability and progress.

"The aim of dialogue is not the victory of one thought against the other. Progress and the ability to conceive future prospects are the objectives of dialogue," the Amir indicated.

"You are obliged to pay due concern to the future because in our contemporary life planning for the future is no longer a voluntary work. It is a must for those who want to live. Comprehensive planning has a brain with its eyes on the future... its feet on solid ground and hands capable of interpreting ideas into tangible achievements," the Amir said.

"As you are responsible for revision, participation and planning you have to remember that the scientific gap between states becomes more dangerous as it widens. We have to shorten time by intensifying efforts to keep pace with the rapid pace of civilisation," His Highness said.

The Amir told the deputies that parliamentary responsibility requires wisdom and perseverance in order to adopt the appropriate decisions in the interest of the country through consultation and tolerance with best utilisation of time and to rise above personal conflicts even if disguised in the costume of public interest.

Sheikh Jaber paid tribute to the former government for its efforts in steering national dialogue and for preparing for the elections. He also thanked all candidates and citizens who took part and enriched the national dialogue.

The Amir stressed that Kuwait is not for a single family, a group or a sect.

"Kuwait is for all Kuwaitis whether living on its boundaries or in its centre. All have rights and duties and all are responsible for Kuwait," he stressed.

Shifting to foreign policy, the Amir said "our eyes and hearts are monitoring what is going on in occupied Palestine."

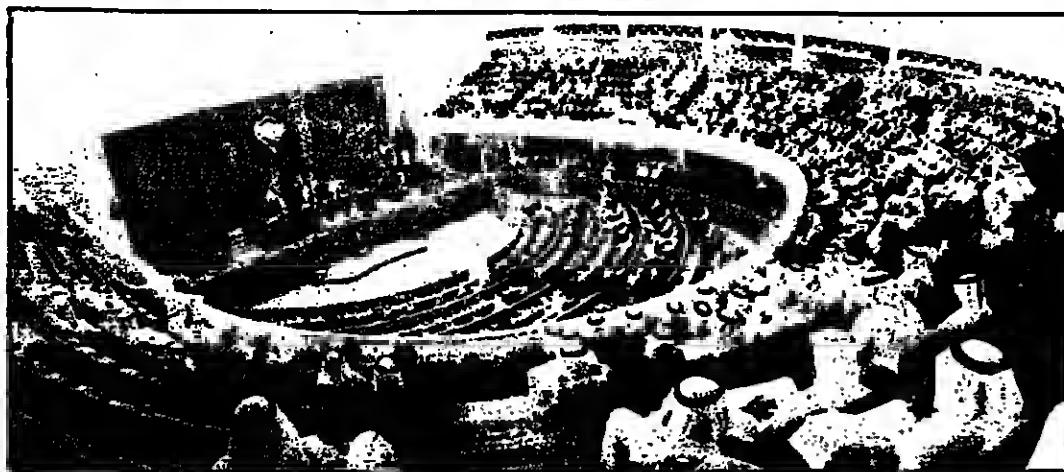
"There are two faces: a noble one struggling for its land and future and a ruthless one trying to expel the others from their homeland and yet the ruthless face received human and material support from superpowers while the noble face only receives promises which could not be materialised in reality," said Sheikh Jaber.

He expressed hope that the Arabs and the Muslims would put an end to their differences and restore solidarity. Sheikh Jaber also expressed hope that

and executive co-operation for the quantum leap in the 1990s and to pave the way for the anticipated parliamentary life," the Amir said.

The Amir added that the National Council should serve as a melting pot "to reconsider previous parliamentary experiences, participation in building the present and outlining the framework of the future."

Urging the deputies to benefit from the experiences of the past, the Amir expressed hope that the present council would have an attracting force "capable of uniting and not dissuading."



A view of the inaugural session of the National Council

Al Misaeed elected as Council speaker

KUWAIT, July 9, (Kuna): National Council member Abdul Aziz Fahd Al Misaeed was today elected as speaker while member Rashed Awadh Mullaq Al Juweiry was elected as his deputy.

Misaeed secured 51 votes against 23 votes going to his contestant, Jasser Khaled Al Jasser Al Rajhi with one member abstaining.

Juweiry won 39 votes against 36 votes for his contestant Barak Nasser Falah Al Noun Abu Hgeen.

The 75-member Council groups 50 elected members and 25 appointed by HH the Amir.

Velayati confers with Sabah

First round of talks held in 'positive spirit'

KUWAIT, July 9, (Kuna): Visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati had talks today with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed on bilateral relations and means to develop them in all fields.

The Kuwaiti and Iranian sides welcomed the resumption of sea route between the two countries and agreed to continue meetings to resume

civil airlines flights between them.

During the first round of talks, the Iranian side briefed the Kuwaiti side on talks held recently in Geneva between Iran and Iraq on the implementation of the Security Council Resolution 598.

The Kuwaiti side expressed satisfaction at the talks and expressed hope that the talks would continue in the same "positive spirit."



Sheikh Sabah and Velayati pictured during first round of talks

The meeting was also attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Ahmed, Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shabana and a number of senior officials at the Foreign Ministry.

Velayati arrived today on a two-day official visit at the invitation of Sheikh Sabah.

Velayati stated upon his arrival that he was with Kuwaiti officials will centre on bilateral relations, regional co-operation and international issues.

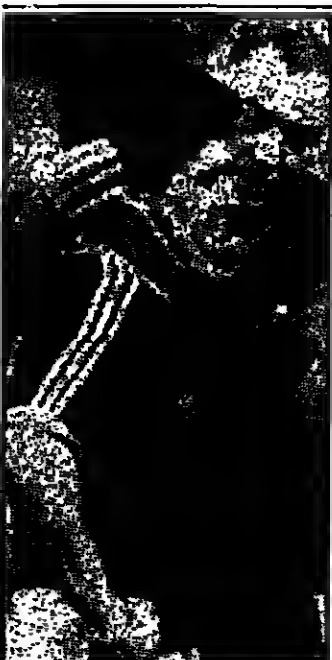
He said that both Iran and Kuwait had recently taken some positive steps to boost and strengthen these relations, adding that both countries have appointed ambassadors in their respective capitals.

"We look forward to take some positive steps," Velayati said adding that the future of these bilateral relations is promising.

The Iranian diplomat said that Iran attaches great importance to its relations with countries of the region and especially members of the Gulf Co-operation Council.

He added that one of the most important goals or achievements of this trip is to tighten relations between Iran and GCC states.

He said "for the expansion and strengthening of relations we need to strengthen political relations on the basis of a suitable ground," adding that "from the political point of view we can strengthen our bilateral relations in other fields also."



Still bitter

The Argentine national squad left Rome yesterday still bitter over the penalty decision that gave West Germany the World Cup and snarling over the jeers and whistles that marked Sunday's final.

Maradona, who was in tears (picture) as he received his runners-up medal to a chorus of whistles from the packed stadium, said he refused to shake hands with FIFA President Joao Havelange during the final ceremony.

See Page 21



HH the Amir delivering his inaugural speech



Rashed Awadh Al Juweiry who was elected deputy speaker



Abdul Aziz Fahd Al Misaeed, who was elected Speaker

78 Tamils, 10 soldiers killed as fighting rages — Page 2
Indian forces kill 13 militants, 6 villagers in Kashmir — Page 2

Ameeri firm on big quota

KUWAIT, July 9, (Kuna): A local daily newspaper quoted Kuwaiti Oil Minister Rashed Al Ameeri today as denying that his country has backed down on its demand for increasing its Opec quota, but said that priorities may change in a way that makes the Kuwaiti stance flexible.

Speaking to the daily upon arrival from Algiers yesterday, Al Ameeri said that his talks with his Algerian counterpart, current Opec chairman Sadek Boussena centred on the present situation on the oil market and Kuwait demand for raising its quota of 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd).

He indicated that side talks on the oil market situation are still ongoing to pave the way for the July 25 Opec meeting in Geneva.

A senior Iranian official has backed Iraq's call for an oil target price of \$25 a barrel, saying it should form the basis of the fight to raise stumping prices at an Opec conference later this month.

Abd Shams Ardakani, adviser to the minister of mines and metals, said in an article in Ettelaat newspaper today that Iran and Iraq should form a solid front to push for higher prices against Opec quota-busters.

Saudi Arabia will host a meeting of oil ministers of Opec's four Gulf members in Jeddah this week, press reports said today.

Saudi Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said today King Fahd was eager to stabilise the petroleum market and ensure success of the forthcoming Opec conference.

See also Page 13

Israeli jets strike again

12 killed in raid on Hezb base

BEIRUT, July 9, (AP): Israeli warplanes blasted bases of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah for a second day today, killing 12 people and raising fears the violence in south Lebanon would sabotage the anticipated release of a Western hostage.

Police said those killed were eight civilians and four combatants of Hezbollah. Twenty-eight others, including 10 fighters, were wounded.

A police spokesman said four US-built F-4 Phantom fighter bombers mounted two bombing runs, 10 minutes apart, on Loweizeh and Melita.

Palls of black smoke hung over the stricken targets in Iqlim Al Tuffah, or the apple region, overlooking Israel's self-designated "security zone," the spokesman said.

The first attack was at 10.40 am (0740 GMT), about 22 hours after the Israeli jets had flattened a Hezbollah base, two miles (three kilometres) to the south. Three fighters were killed and 12

wounded in yesterday's raid.

In Jerusalem, the Israeli military command said its warplanes struck targets used by Hezbollah for "organizing and launching attacks" and returned safely.

Later today, Israeli artillerymen in the security zone traded heavy artillery fire with Hezbollah positions north of the buffer, police and United Nations sources said.

A UN source said the international peacekeepers monitored at one point in the early evening a barrage of 12 Katyusha rockets fired by Hezbollah into the security zone, which Israel established in 1985.

Voice of the South, mouthpiece of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia, said three people were killed and five wounded in the barrage.

Monday's air attack was Israel's 3rd in four days and 15th this year. In the 14 previous raids,

(Continued on Page 2)

Israel can take 12m Soviets

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 9, (Reuters): As many as 12 million Soviet citizens could become Israelis under the Jewish state's immigration laws, former Soviet Jewish dissident Nathan Sharansky said today.

The figure is far above estimates of the Jewish population of the Soviet Union but a 1970 amendment to the Israeli law of return extended the right to immigrate to Israel to non-Jewish spouses, children and grandchildren of Jews.

"Demographic experts say there may be 10 to 12 million," Sharansky told a conference on the current influx of Soviet Jews.

"Of course 80 per cent of these are not Jewish and this is just a way to leave the Soviet Union and avoid civil war or whatever will happen," said Sharansky, now an immigration activist.

More than 50,000 Soviet Jews arrived in Israel in the first half of 1990 and one million are forecast to move to Israel within five years.

Sharansky, who was released from a Soviet prison in exchange for a Russian spy in 1986, said about 30 per cent of those now arriving were not actually Jews.

Traditional religious law recognises only those with a Jewish mother as Jewish, but the definition of the law of return is much broader. Arguments between religious factions over who is a Jew have torn at Israeli society.

DAY BY DAY

WHAT a dilemma for divorced Kuwaiti women who have children, but cannot obtain a government house? What, if any, are the "stigmas" of Kuwaiti women who marry a non-Kuwaiti and have children, but are unable to get a government house — especially if the husband is dead or has left the country or has been sentenced to an extended jail term?

Wherein lies the guilt of these women, specially those who have no source of income and no relatives to turn to?

Should these "helpless women" wait till they get alms from Muslims which are paid after intensive investigations?

The minister of social affairs is concerned in redressing the issue and providing a solution.

Zahed Matar

Tamil Tigers dig in for a long secessionist war

THANNIYOOTHI, Sri Lanka, July 9. (Reuters): Underneath the red and gold flag of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the bicycle repairman in this northern Sri Lankan village was doing a roaring trade. No cash changed hands, only ious.

The shop next door was closed because the proprietor was at home digging a bunker. Three weeks into a Tamil separatist rebellion, the small Tamil villages that lie in the path of the advancing Sri Lankan Army are preparing for a long war.

"We will not let them (the army) walk into our villages," said the 22-year-old Tiger political officer of Mullaitivu district in the rebel-held north of the Indian Ocean island.

The Tamils launched an offensive on June 11, turning their guns on Sri Lankan security forces after an uneasy 14-month truce during which they held peace talks with the Colombo government.

Food is running short in the north, heartland of the Tamil secessionist war. The banks are shut, petrol rationing has cleared the dirt streets of motorbikes and schools are on half-day.

Villagers expect schools to close completely this week, a prospect that seemed to worry them more than an impending food crisis.

"We have no fertilisers but we can eventually grow enough rice, coconut and vegetables to get by," said a village administrator who supported the Tigers' battle for an independent Tamil state in

north and east Sri Lanka.

Supporters of the movement were vocal. Other villagers refused to discuss their political views.

"The problem is not paddy (rice) but electricity. We might not have enough electricity to mill it," a retired ship's steward said.

The villagers had just succeeded in restringing powerlines they said had been shot down by government helicopter gunships, but the current was weak.

Virtually all the villagers congregating in the main square under the fluttering Tiger flag were noisily indignant about the straining incident that they said had wounded a government official in the leg.

The same indignation was expressed forcefully in other northern villages, most of them Tiger strongholds, where residents said they had been machine-gunned from the air.

In Nedunkerny, they have dubbed the gunships "Air Lanka Nam," referring to the government-owned carrier, Air Lanka. Nam is short for Vietnam.

The Tigers make the most of the incidents. "There is no (Tiger) camp here, just a political office," said the political officer, who wore a revolver and walkie-talkie strapped to his belt. He accused the army of deliberately attacking innocent civilians.

A little later a young woman dressed in the

striped fatigues of the Tiger guerrillas cycled past, an assault rifle slung over her shoulder.

Civil servants and teachers have gone unpaid since the Tiger guerrillas relaunched their separatist offensive, quickly overrunning the north and east.

The government counter-offensive has concentrated on the east, where Tamils make up only 50 per cent of the population and is only gradually advancing on the predominantly Tamil north, where the Tigers are stronger.

Cheques and ions are piling up and the price of scarce commodities is rising across the north where farmers are used to growing cash crops such as beet, tobacco and grapes.

"Petrol, if you can get it, costs 125 rupees (\$3) a

litre, diesel 80 rupees (\$2), the former ship's steward said. Petrol retails for 20 rupees a litre (50 cents) in the capital, Colombo, and diesel for about 10 (25 cents).

His two motorbikes, carefully graced, were stored in his parlour and he gets around by bicycle. He has cancelled plans to build an extra bedroom for his youngest son and is constructing a bunker instead.

"We expect bombing any day now," he said. Cut off almost completely from the rest of Sri Lanka, the villagers receive most of news in the form of often unreliable rumours from Tiger headquarters in the far northern town of Jaffna, which is itself cut off from the world.



Flie from attack

Nearly 1,000 Hindus, who have fled to New Delhi in fear of Sikh attack in Punjab, begin an indefinite sit-in protest near the official New Delhi residence of V.P. Singh to demand houses and financial compensation. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israeli raid

Hostage family waits

Ireland keeps jet on standby

DUBLIN, July 9. (Reuters): An Irish government jet was ready for Beirut hostage Brian Keenan today after reports from Tehran that a Westerner held in Lebanon might be freed soon.

Keenan's family waited by the phone. "We would be hopeful that someone is going to come out of this but we are not getting too excited that it is going to be Brian," said Elaine Spence, a sister who has campaigned for four years to secure his release.

The Dublin government, which launched an intensive diplomatic effort to secure Keenan's release during its six-month presidency of the European Economic Community, put a jet on standby to fly him home but also adopted a cautious note.

"It cannot be emphasised too strongly that these reports are based largely on speculation and we have faced this kind of thing before," a government spokesman said.

"But at the same time we are keeping in constant touch with the situation and we are hoping for a positive outcome."

Keenan, a bearded teacher kidnapped on April 11, 1986, on his way to work at the American University in Beirut, has dual Irish and British passports but travelled on Irish papers.

Keenan's family and the Irish

government believed he would have a better chance of being freed if he was not included on the list of British hostages in Lebanon. So Dublin rather than London has been negotiating on his behalf.

A group of Irish parliamentarians visited Tehran in June and one of them, David Andrews, said today: "Very guarded optimism is now justified."

The Iranian news agency Irna began current speculation on Saturday with a report from Beirut that a hostage, most probably a European, might be freed soon.

Pro-Iranian sources said the release, not expected before Tuesday, would be a goodwill gesture by Tehran to Western Europe for help after the devastating June 21 earthquake that killed at least 35,000 people.

Ireland's ambassador to Syria said today he was hopeful Keenan would soon be freed.

"We are very hopeful but we still do not have any concrete information. An Irish government delegation will certainly come to Damascus in case there was confirmation Keenan will be freed," Declan Connolly, Ireland's non-resident ambassador to Syria, told Reuters by telephone from Riyadh.

Khaddafi takes credit

NICOSIA, July 9. (Reuters): Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi has taken the credit for inspiring world-wide political changes, including the destruction of the Berlin Wall.

In a speech carried by the Libyan news agency Jana today, he said his "green book" outlining the theory of a Jamahiriya or people's republic had inspired popular movements internationally.

"The people crawled alone to the Berlin Wall without a political decision... the idea of German unity started actually from the Jamahiriya but it is difficult for them to admit that," he said in his speech in Benghazi on Saturday.

Khaddafi, who seized power from King Idris in 1969, renamed his country the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in 1977. His "green book" postulates a state in which the people rule and not politicians or a party.

He said changes in Eastern Europe, China, Korea or anywhere else in the world were caused by popular unrest following the Libyan model, rather than political decisions.

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Lankan fighting rages

78 Tamil rebels, 10 soldiers killed in battles for north

COLOMBO, July 9. (Agencies): Seventy-eight Tamil separatist guerrillas and 10 soldiers were killed in battles for control of Sri Lanka's northeast region, military sources said today.

Eighteen rebels were killed yesterday when troops destroyed a training camp in Mannar and a further seven were killed at Murunkan in the north.

Earlier, officials said 53 rebels had been killed in the eastern province as troops swept the area on Friday.

The sources said an abandoned police station at Murunkan was destroyed by rebels

who thought it would be used by advancing troops.

Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne elaborated today on proposals by President Ranasinghe Premadasa for possible international involvement in any further talks with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

The Tigers, fighting for an independent state for the minority Tamil community, began their latest offensive on June 11 after 14 months of peace talks.

More than 850 people including rebels, security forces and civilians have been killed in

Kashmir troops kill 13 militants

SRINAGAR, July 9. (AP): Paramilitary policemen searching for Muslim militants set about 200 huts on fire and shot to death six villagers in Kashmir, witnesses said today.

In addition, officials said security forces patrolling the border with Pakistan killed 13 rebels who entered India late yesterday, armed with automatic rifles. The clash took place near Kupwara, 85 kilometres (50 miles) northwest of Srinagar, the centre of the Muslim rebels' campaign for the independence of Jammu-Kashmir state from predominantly Hindu India.

At least seven more people were killed yesterday and today in separate incidents linked to the rebellion. At least 706 people have died since Jan 20 when the government launched a crack-down on the separatists.

On Monday, Farooq Ahmed Shah, the 22-year-old son of Srinagar's top civil administrator, was released unharmed three days after he was kidnapped by a militant group.

Witnesses said that paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force soldiers set 200 houses on fire in Adina and Wamagum villages yesterday after militants hurled a grenade at a security force truck, killing two policemen.

After the militants escaped, police raided Adina and fired at houses indiscriminately, said Khursi Begum who lives in Adina, 35 kilometres (20 miles) from Srinagar.

Dry fodder and houses with thatched roofs caught fire as a result of the shots, and some houses were set on fire deliberately, she said.

"The CRPF beat up our men and drove them away. At least 50 men were injured," said Mrs Begum, who fled during the firing and returned today to search for her missing child.

Six charred bodies with bullet wounds were found today, said a district official, G.A. Ganai.

The 3,000 people living in the two adjoining villages fled into the rice paddies nearby, and only a few had returned today, said Jana Begum, another woman in Adina.

Officials in Srinagar said Shah, the son of Srinagar Deputy Commissioner Ghulam Abbas, was set free in a Srinagar mosque where he was escorted by a masked militant.

The Jammu Kashmir Students Liberation Front had claimed responsibility for Shah's abduction from a Srinagar neighbourhood on Friday.

The group, which had demanded the release of two jailed militants in exchange for Shah's freedom, released him unconditionally in the presence of Shah's aunt and three local journalists.

One of the journalists, who spoke on condition of anonymity, quoted the masked militant as saying, "We only wanted to show the people of Kashmir that the state as well as the government is least bothered about the safety of children belonging to a Kashmiri Muslim officer."

Shah, who appeared weak but unharmed, said his kidnappers treated him well.

The militant group that abducted him is the student wing of the Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front, which is spearheading the separatist movement.



Floodwaters

A woman carries her child on her shoulders as she wades through floodwaters in Chittagong. Police say eight people have been killed as rain-led rivers burst their banks inundating vast areas and forcing residents to flee. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Party role: Algerian Prime Minister Mouloud Hamrouche asked the ruling party on Monday to relieve him and fellow ministers from the party's political role, the official news agency APS said.

Hamrouche made the request on the second day of a central committee meeting of the National Liberation Front (FLN), which is grappling to come to terms with its shock defeat by Muslim fundamentalists in local elections last month.

Hamrouche told the 268-strong committee that without him and the other four ministers it would be easier for the party "to renew its structures" and for the government to follow through its programme of reforms. (Reuters)

Street blockade: Thousands of pro-Sandinistas armed with clubs and machetes pulled up paving stones to build street barricades on Monday in support of a spreading strike that entered its second week.

The scene was reminiscent of Managua 11 years ago when Sandinistas built similar barricades at the height of their revolution to overthrow dictator Gen. Anastasio Somoza.

The paving stones and vehicles blocked some of Managua's main streets. Although police have threatened to act harshly against those who cause disorder, there was no indication they were intervening.

Although the Sandinistas were voted out of power in elections last February, ending their 10-year rule, they still control the military and the police. (AP)

Earlier report Page 4

Source of shuttle problem: Engineers at Rockwell International in California may have located the source of a mysterious hydrogen leak that grounded the US space shuttle fleet, officials said Monday.

Space agency spokesman Kyle Herring at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, Texas, said that tests on Sunday found hydrogen pouring from plumbing attachments that had been removed from space shut-

Successful mission Israeli satellite

TEL AVIV, July 9. (Reuters): Israel's second experimental satellite re-entered the atmosphere and burned up today after a highly successful mission, its makers said.

State-owned Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), which built the Ofek-1, described the mission to test two-way communications as an "unqualified success."

The satellite's 97 days in space exceeded initial predictions by 40 days. Ofek-1, which made Israel the first Middle East space power when it was launched in September 1988, orbited the Earth for 181 days.

Israel denied the two satellites had military roles but military analysts said they were its first steps towards developing a spy satellite.

It was not immediately clear how long it would take to fix the leak and resume flights with the three-vehicle space shuttle fleet. (AP)

Cyprus oldest woman dies: Chrysiotou Gabriel, the island's oldest woman at 112, died on Monday.

Relatives said she was in excellent health until two weeks ago when she slipped and fell while walking in the garden of her home in the south coast town of Limassol.

In a newspaper interview last month, Gabriel said the secret of her longevity was a sip of zivania, distilled grape alcohol, every morning coupled with a diet consisting mainly of beans.

"The diet apart, one should also face life calmly," she was quoted as saying.

Cars powered by sunshine begin 11-day race in the United States

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida, July 9. (AP): Forget gas stations. These buggies don't even have gas tanks.

They come in weird shapes and sizes — and they're not cheap — but all 32 entrants in the 1,800-mile GM Sunrayce USA are pollution-free.

The solar-powered cars built by engineering students from the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada leave the starting line today from Epcot Centre in Walt Disney world bound for Detroit.

They will take secondary roads through

Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan, destined for a July 19 finish at the General Motors technical centre in Warren, Michigan, a suburb outside Detroit, the US motor city.

The combination of direct sunlight and stored energy can propel some of the vehicles at high speeds for limited distances, but the cars must abide by posted speed limits.

Nevertheless, the students want to win. The top two finishers and a third selected for technological innovations will be sent by GM to compete in the 1990 world solar challenge

race in Australia later this year.

"Each car was conceived, designed and built from the ground up" by some of North America's top engineering and science students, said GM Vice President Donald L. Runkle.

Participating schools include the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, the University of Michigan, Florida Institute of Technology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, the University of Pennsylvania, Waterloo-Ontario and Puerto Rico-Mayaguez.

'Superwoman' a hard nickname to live up to, says Conran

MONACO, July 9. (Reuters): Shirley 'Superwoman' Conran practices what she preaches. She pays her house cleaner the same wages she pays her executive secretary — because she considers them equally important.

But 'Superwoman' is a hard nickname to live up to, says the British writer who achieved overnight fame when the book of the same name was published 15 years ago.

"For example, when I booked for a skiing holiday under my maiden

name, the tour organisers told some journalists who I was, and sold them tickets so they could watch me take a fall," she told Reuters.

Former wife of British designer and business tycoon Sir Terence Conran, Shirley Conran has found a haven in the tiny Mediterranean principality of Monaco, which she says has none of the malice and envy one can find in London.

"Monaco is also a place of law and order," said the author of "Lace," the

raunchy best-selling novel which, with its sequel "Lace 2", was made into a television serial.

"I'm not sexually harassed here, as I have been in London or New York ... when I arrived 11 years ago, I would not have thought that a positive advantage. Now I appreciate it."

Conran began writing practical books to help women reduce housework when her marriage broke up and she had to raise her two sons Sebastian and Jasper alone.

"I didn't imagine the blast of fame that was going to hit me after 'Superwoman,'" she recalled. "I had just noticed this phenomenon that we were all supposed to copy. I christened her 'Superwoman,' then I attacked her."

She later turned to writing fiction, which paid better, but she remains a firm advocate of liberating women from housework, and alternates fiction with practical books. She has produced seven books in the past 11

years and is currently working on a novel set in the south of France.

"Lace" is about women's attitude to sex and money," Conran explained.

"The reason I wanted to write about sex, apart from the fact that it was my obsession, is that I was tired of the way modern authors like D.H. Lawrence or Ernest Hemingway had tackled it from the woman's point of view."

"Then I read Erica Jong, who said the trouble with Lawrence's heroine

Lady Chatterley was that she was a man. It became clear to me that I didn't know what other women's sexual responses were. I interviewed women and then wrote a book with four heroines, because there were four basic female sexual responses."

Conran's latest practical book is called "Down With Superwoman". "I chose that title because I was fed up with being attacked by people who hadn't bothered to read 'Superwoman,'" she said.

Louisiana passes abortion legislation

BATON ROUGE, Louisiana, July 9. (AP): The Louisiana legislature yesterday passed the strictest state abortion bill in the nation, a measure that threatens doctors who perform abortions with up to 10 years at hard labour.

The state senate earlier had failed to override the governor's veto of an even harsher bill that would have restricted abortion even in cases of rape and incest.

If last night's measure is signed by the governor, it will be the strictest state abortion law in the nation. Pennsylvania currently has the strictest state abortion law.

Sign

The bill passed 83-22 in the house after a 32-7 vote in the senate. It goes now to Gov. Buddy Roemer, who has indicated in the past he would sign such a bill into law.

Roemer has indicated he would accept an abortion bill that contained exceptions for rape and incest. His spokesman said Roemer had not seen the bill that was hurried through the legislature on yesterday and would not comment on it until today.

The bill bans abortions except in cases of rape, incest or in which the mother's life is in danger. It carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and a \$100,000 fine for doctors who perform abortions. It would not penalize the woman who seeks the abortion.

Demonstrators

As the senate worked yesterday, some 1,000 demonstrators gathered nearby. A strong majority appeared to be backers of the anti-abortion bill, but there were also scores of abortion rights activists.

The bill was attached to another controversial bill — one that would lower the penalty to a \$25-dollar fine for people who beat up flag burners. Saunders' version of the bill stripped it of the flag burning provisions, which were headed for failure in the senate, and inserted the abortion issues.



US President George Bush reacts after getting a hug from country music star Loretta Lynn following her performance for the economic summit leaders on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Smell helps recall

NEW YORK, July 9. (AP): Odours are laced through our memories and sniffing the right smell can help recall information, says new research hailed as the first firm evidence that scents can help people remember things.

The effect appeared in study participants who smelled chocolate during a word exercise, and sniffed it again when tested the next day on their memory of the task.

The memory strategy may be able to help students studying for exams or airline pilots training for emergencies, said researcher Frank Schab.

Schab, who did the work while at Yale University, now does psychological research at the General Motors Research Labs in Warren, Michigan. He presents his results in this month's issue of the journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, memory and cognition.

Schab's paper is the first firm scientific evidence for the odour memory that most everybody has experienced, said Brian Lyman of the Monell Chemical Senses Centre in Philadelphia.

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Texas-style fest at summit

Rodeo and barbecue

HOUSTON, July 9. (AP): World leaders gathering for their annual economic summit were treated yesterday to a Texas-style fest — with bucking broncos, country music and more than three and a-half tons of barbecue.

The leaders didn't eat all that barbecue — hundreds of reporters and summit officials were helping — but the prime ministers and such got their fill, along with handmade ostrich cowboy boots, belt buckles and hats.

Though the rodeo and barbecue weren't part of this week's official summit schedule, Prime Ministers Brian Mulroney of Canada, Margaret Thatcher of Great Britain and Toshiki Kaifu of Japan, along with Jacques Delors, President of the European Commission, all attended.

Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl sent their regrets, opting for the World Cup soccer final in which West Germany took on Argentina in Rome to win 1-0. They, and French President Francois Mitterrand, arrive today in time for the official opening of the summit.

Guests dined on mesquite-grilled chicken, sausage, biscuits, beans, cole slaw, potato salad and carrot cake.

On one stage, out-of-town and foreign journalists were being

recruited to participate in armadillo races. Another area had a large saddled hull for guests for ride.

"It's wonderful. This is my first time to Houston and a rodeo," said Yoshiaki Kaneko of the Japanese embassy in Washington, flashing a cowboy hat.

Kaifu came stomping into the barbecue clad in cowboy boots, a hat, red bandana and a silver-and-gold belt buckle big enough to serve up a steak.

Igor Borisenko, a reporter for the Soviet News Agency Tass, said of the Texas-style shindig, "it's just magnificent. It's a shame to be in Texas and not try it."

After eating, the dignitaries were taught the basics of rodeo, including how to twirl a lasso. Then, cowboys competed in barrel racing and calf scramble.

The leaders also got a chance to sample American country music culture as personified by Minnie Pearl and other stars of the Grand Ole Opry.

The Opry performance marked only the second time in 40 years the show had left its Nashville home.

Stars on hand also included Loretta Lynn and Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin brothers.

See Also Page 13

Pioneer artificial heart recipient dies at age 30

TUCSON, Arizona, July 9. (AP): Pioneer artificial heart recipient Michael Drummond, who received two artificial hearts and one human heart, has died of multiple organ failure at age 30, five years after his first transplant.

Drummond died Saturday night of overwhelming complications including a blood infection, kidney failure and lung problems brought on by a combination of a diseased gallbladder and obesity, said Dr Jack G. Copeland.

Copeland called Drummond "a pal and a friend and a good patient."

In 1987, when his first artificial heart was presented to the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of American History, Drummond said, "I guess I am sort of a part of history, but not by choice. It's possible 100 years from now that the artificial heart will be as routine as a blood transfusion."

Drummond and Copeland set medical history in 1985 when Drummond became the youngest of six Jarvik-7 artificial heart recipients and the first to undergo an implant as a bridge to human transplant.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

MOULTON, Alabama: A 66-year-old man suffered a fatal heart attack while leading the singing at the funeral of a friend.

Charles H. Sanford Sr of Pumpkin Centre, Alabama, collapsed Saturday afternoon during the funeral service for Dee Melson at the Elbert funeral home chapel. He died a short time later.

Lawrence County coroner Harvey Elliott, who owns the funeral home, said a minister had finished speaking and Sanford had gotten up to lead the congregation in a final song when he was stricken.

"I was watching him," Elliott said. "He looked up and then staggered a little bit. I got hold of him and got him out of the chapel into the hall. I knew it was a desperate situation."

A doctor and registered nurse attending the funeral administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation to Sanford while awaiting an ambulance. He was taken to Lawrence County Hospital where he died. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: A group calling itself Artists Against Religious Oppression claimed responsibility Sunday for leaving two "artworks" and graffiti protesting Roman Catholic Church policies on a church door and at an archdiocese office.

A spokeswoman, who refused to give her name, said the previously unknown group struck before dawn at St Catherine Laboure Church in Torrance and at the offices of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles west of downtown Los Angeles.

The message is that the church should stay out of politics and medicine, that it should stop its oppression of women, gays and lesbians, that it should stop preaching sin and lies and that it should start preaching safe sex and the truth," the spokeswoman said.

Church officials could not immediately be reached for comment. (UPI)

SEOUL, South Korea: Hundreds of blind massage shooting "protesters" have protested a government crackdown on massage parlors.

Rice police blocked a street protest by the estimated 400 men and women who tried to march toward downtown Seoul after a rally asking the government to end its curb on massage parlors.

The protesters accused the government of clamping down indiscriminately on small massage parlors where many blind people work.

They claimed there has been a loophole in the crackdown, with most deluxe or hotel massage parlors unaffected. They said massage has been the main means of livelihood for about 150,000 blind people.

In response to public outcries against the nation's booming sex business, the government has begun regulating hotels, massage parlors, barber shops and saunas known for providing sex. (AP)

DETROIT: Bucking the "dress for success" ethic, the director of the American Institute for Preventive Medicine is providing fresh ammunition for men yearning to be liberated from their neckties.

In his new book "A Year of Health Hints," Don R. Powell says research at Cornell University indicates tightly knotted neckties can affect vision by interfering with the blood flow to the brain and sensory organs.

Even those who remove their ties perform more poorly for a period of time than those who have gone without them altogether, he said.

"For most people sitting at a desk pushing papers, it's not going to be that much of an issue," Powell conceded.

But he said top-notch vision can be "very, very critical" for many workers, including computer operators, surgeons, draftsmen and pilots. (UPI)

PARIS: Veteran actor and stage director Jacques Lusselle has been named to head the prestigious French theater company Comedie Francaise.

He succeeds Antoine Vitez, who died in April. The appointment was announced Wednesday.

Lusselle has directed the National Theatre of Strasbourg since 1983. In 1967 he founded the Studio-Theatre in Viterbo, outside Paris, which he directed until 1983.

Lusselle said he was "moved and honoured by the warm welcome" he received from the Comedie Francaise troupe. He said he would maintain the 1990-91 programme of performances planned by Vitez. (AP)



Nothing to brag about Donahue

NEW YORK, July 9. (AP): Thousands of women may consider talk-show host Phil Donahue to be the ideal husband, but the one who married him says he is far from perfect.

"Phil is the greatest husband in the world, and he's nothing to brag about," Mario Thomas told the general federation of women's clubs convention.

She says her husband shares a trait common among married men — always asking their wives where their shoes, keys and other belongings are.

LENOX, Massachusetts: In 1940, 17-year-old Lukas Foss packed his bags and headed for the Berkshire Mountains, eager to check out a new school that offered fledgling musicians a chance to get their hands on a real orchestra.

"Everybody knew about it," recalls the composer, one of string of distinguished alumni returning this summer to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Berkshire Symphony Orchestra's training school. It is one of the country's most

prestigious schools and one of the loveliest and most popular venues for outdoor concerts.

"We very rarely got a chance to conduct an orchestra. At Tanglewood you would. It was something that everybody knew and everybody wanted right from the start," he said.

Tanglewood Music Centre, founded by the great BSO director Serge Koussevitzky, glittered with notables of 20th-century music.

BOSTON, Massachusetts: Men produce less sperm in the summer, and this may explain why fewer babies are born nine months later in the springtime, a study concludes.

Population experts in the United States have long noticed that fewer babies are born in the spring months than at any other time of the year. No one could be sure why.

Now, a study in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine suggests that hot weather in the summer may at least be partly to blame.

The researchers, based at the chemical industry Institute of Toxicology in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, dismissed one obvious explanation for the summertime dearth of conceptions. They said "the available evidence" does not support the idea that it simply is too hot to have sex so often in the summer.

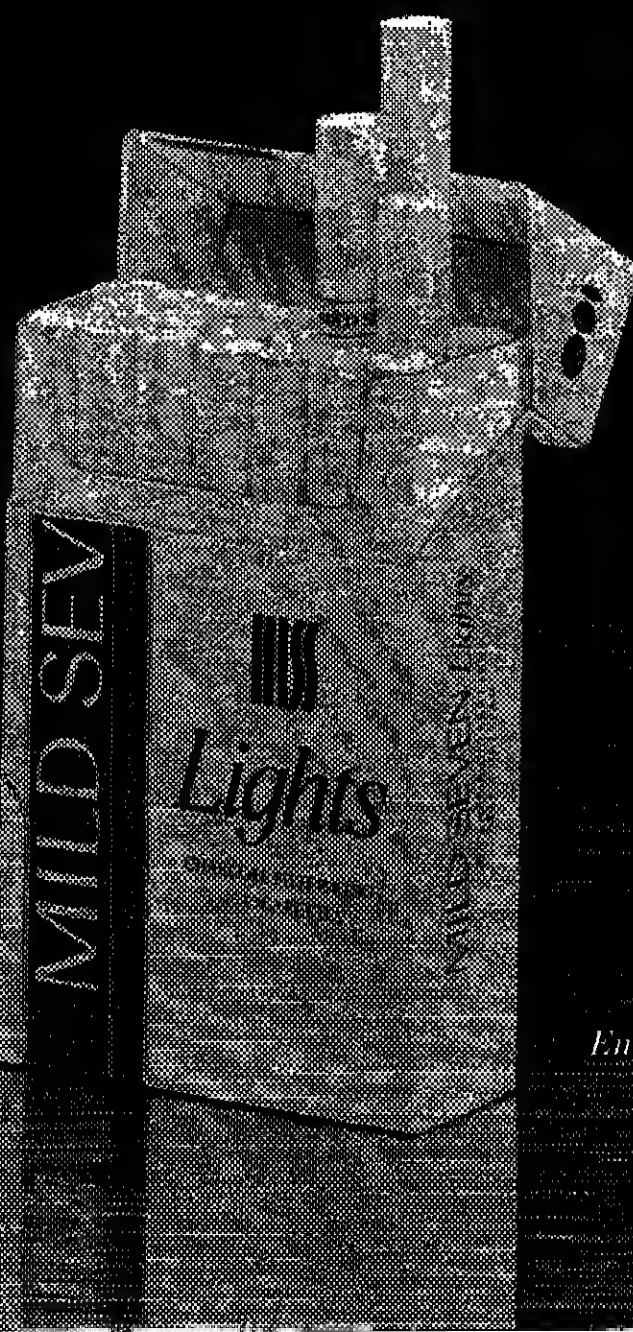
PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania: Former US president Jimmy Carter gave President George Bush mixed reviews.

"I've been extremely disappointed in President Bush on environmental issues," Carter said after the gala Freedom Festival at Independence Hall, where he accepted the \$100,000 Liberty Medal award on July 4, the Independence Day holiday.

"In almost every case, he's come down basically on the same positions as James Watt," said Carter, referring to the controversial secretary of the interior under Bush's predecessor, president Ronald Reagan.

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Manuel Noriega

Panama wants Noriega documents held by US

PANAMA CITY, July 9, (AP): Virtually none of the money Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega allegedly made from corruption and drugs has been recovered and the United States is partly to blame, Panamanian investigators say.

A major problem, according to the investigators, is that Washington will not turn over more than 15,000 boxes of documents captured by American soldiers in the December invasion that ousted the country's de facto leader.

Noriega is jailed in the United States on federal drug charges.

Panamanians say they need the booty to help an economic embargo the United States imposed in hopes of forcing Noriega to leave peacefully.

"For Panamanian justice to be adequate, quick and effective, we need to examine the documents and computer systems captured by American troops because they contain records of the management of property and public funds by former members of the defunct defence forces," a document from the national comptroller's office said.

The documents and computers, which belonged to Noriega's military operations, were found at the headquarters of his special anti-terrorist unit at Fort Amador, where the United States still controls some buildings. Both nations had soldiers at Fort Amador before the invasion.

Officials of the comptroller's office say the United

States has given Noriega's lawyers access to the documents, but not to the new Panamanian government.

Lawyers for the general deny having access and contend the papers would show the United States sanctioned some of his activities. They claim the US government has many more documents than it acknowledges.

US embassy statements have said negotiators from the two countries were seeking a way to give Panama "appropriate access to Noriega's documents," but that legal precedents must be considered.

Foreign Minister Julio Linarez said Panama was using "diplomatic channels" in an attempt to get the

documents.

In Washington, Justice Department spokesman Doug Tillett said: "As in any other case involving large quantities of evidence, we want to ensure that the proper procedures are in place to prevent questions about handling of the documents from arising in the future."

Tillett said the United States took possession of the documents at Panama's request.

Eusebio Marshosky, head of the comptroller's office of patrimonial responsibility, said \$25 million in assets belonging to officials of Noriega's regime had been seized, but the only confiscated property belonging to Noriega was a ranch near the Costa Rican border worth about \$1.5 million.

Special Report

Rio slums getting better

Life improves with modern services

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, July 9, (AP): Life is getting better in the slums of Rio, which symbolised the worst of Third World poverty for decades.

Brick homes are replacing wooden shacks. Modern services, even banks, are becoming part of the scene. Few wealthier Brazilians are aware of this because they wouldn't have the courage to set foot in a "Favela," as the slums are called.

"Most people think this place is overrun with bandits and drug dealers and that I live in a rundown shack," said Antonio Trajano of Rocinha, the largest shantytown in Latin America. "They don't believe it when I tell them I'm not afraid to go out at night."

The poorest of the poor are crowded into makeshift slums that ring the major cities in a nation where half the 150 million people have had to get along on less

than \$100 a month; a pound of beef costs about \$1.

City governments generally ignored the shantytowns, leaving them without plumbers, running water and electricity. Gunfights between police and drug traffickers became commonplace.

Conditions were especially hard in Rio, where nearly one-fifth of the metropolitan area's 10.5 million people live in slums. Areas of abject poverty remain, but many of the larger slums have changed dramatically in recent years.

In Jacarezinho, a large shantytown across the city from Rocinha, Elias Lima said the neighbourhood looks nothing like it did when he was born there 41 years ago.

"The streets were dirt, the houses were so slipshod they blew away with a major storm and there wasn't even a store to buy a loaf of bread," he said. "Now, Jacarezinho has concrete buildings as tall as five stories and I can buy anything I need at a store right here in the neighbourhood."

Lima, who owns a party supply shop called Majic Balloon, put up a two-bedroom brick home with the help of neighbours, a common way of building in the Favelas.

Trinidade Carneiro, 28, who works in a nearby pharmacy, said a friend from a wealthy neighbourhood came to visit and was amazed.

"She didn't know we had schools, restaurants and clubs here; and she was surprised to see I lived in a comfortable brick house with indoor plumbing," Ms Carneiro said.

Major improvements in Rio's shantytowns began when populist Leonel Brizola was governor in 1982-1986. Power, water and at least partial sewerage networks were installed in the bigger slums and the main streets were paved.

More than 90 per cent of slum homes now have electricity and about 80 per cent have running water, said Licia Valladares, a sociology professor at the University Research Institute of Rio De Janeiro who is an expert on the Favelas.

She said most new houses in the larger, older slums are built of brick and concrete.

"The new Favelas that spring up are in primitive condition, but many of the older ones are almost completely urbanised," Ms Valladares said.

Much of the Rocinha, a hillside community of 200,000 with a sweeping view of the ocean, now resembles a work-class neighbourhood more than an outpost of the dispossessed.

Butchers, bakers, doctors, lawyers, appliance stores, pharmacies, furniture stores and day care centres are plentiful. Rocinha even has its own theatre group, boccia (open mouth), which performs on a regular schedule.

"We have the same quantity and quality of goods available here as in most middle-class neighbourhoods," said Trajano, who is 68 and owns a small grocery.

Rocinha, which means little farm, is the first Favela with banking services. A branch of the Bank of the State of Rio De Janeiro opened last November.

"Not only is it safe here, but we've got the best clients in the city," said Robson Antonio Viana, the manager. "We haven't had a single bounced cheque since we opened, which is unheard of."

Many residents say they suffer discrimination because of where they live.

"When you go to look for work, there's no problem until you say you're from Rocinha," said Romildo Marques Dos Santos, 32, a security guard now unemployed. "That's enough not to get the job."

Dos Santos said the police are especially hard on slum residents.

US war on drugs increases in Bolivia

LA PAZ, Bolivia, July 9, (AP): The US military is setting up a sophisticated intelligence-gathering system in Bolivia to keep tabs on drug traffickers, and it has sent in advisers to help, a US official said.

Increased US military presence in Bolivia is part of an intensification of the anti-drug war, encouraged by promises of aid from Washington.

Engene Castillo, acting US drug enforcement administration attaché for Bolivia, said Friday the US southern military command would "reinforce the Bolivian police and DEA operational capabilities throughout South America."

Bolivia, an impoverished South American country of 7 million people, produces one-third of the cocaine for US and other foreign markets. Castillo described the new system as "innovative."

"It gives us... intelligence and the ability to transmit that intelligence to affected areas so that operations can be planned and mounted in a minimum amount of time," Castillo said.

Castillo spoke Friday on condition the story would not be used until Sunday.

A computer system, recently installed in La Paz and Santa Cruz, will link major cocaine centres and provide data on trafficking. It will also provide a safe way of transmitting information among anti-drug operations centres.

It will shortly be installed in three other Bolivian cocaine centres.

Currently, the DEA and Bolivian police rely on Korean-war-vintage radio equipment that can easily be intercepted by drug traffickers, who use the latest in radio communications equipment.

Castillo said the US military command is also helping the DEA and Bolivian police "formulate and maintain a country-wide operational strategy" to prevent the production and export of drugs and import of chemicals.

For about a month, three military advisers—one each from the US navy, army and air force—have been co-ordinating strategy with Bolivian police and the DEA. At least 10 other special agents are training Bolivian anti-drug police.

The US military is prohibited by the Bolivian and US governments from directly participating in any anti-drug operations.

Support

"The military is only a support force," Castillo said. "All we are doing is using military expertise to assist us in intelligence gathering."

During a May meeting in Washington, Bolivian leader Jaime Paz Zamora and President Bush agreed on greater military involvement in the anti-drug war.

Paz Zamora agreed to commit 900 soldiers to the effort and to increase air force and navy involvement. Bolivian military personnel are already assisting police in anti-drug activities.

In return, Bolivia was promised \$75 million worth of military equipment and training for 1990-1991.

War

But the growing militarization of the anti-drug war has created opposition in Bolivia and raised concern that a largely peaceful police enforcement effort could escalate into civil wars such as those in Peru and Colombia.

"The participation of the military in coca-producing zones... is only producing violence," said Felipe Cáceres García, a leader of the Coca Growers Association of Chapare.



Rebels from the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) on Friday sat in the boot of a car heading for the Liberian capital Monrovia where rebel forces are now besieging President Samuel Doe's palace in the city centre. (Reuters wirephoto)

Rebels reject truce

House-to-house fighting continues in Monrovia suburbs

MONROVIA, July 9, (AP): A rebel assault on the capital slowed during the weekend but rebel sources said house-to-house fighting broke out again yesterday in a suburb.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the sources said the insurgents had rejected a ceasefire proposed over the radio on Friday night by President Samuel K. Doe in the six-month war.

The house-to-house fighting erupted in the suburb of Paynesville, 13 kilometres (eight miles) from the city centre. The suburb had been the scene of fighting for several days.

The sources, speaking from Ivory Coast but in contact with the front, said it could take some time to capture Monrovia, and the rebels were hoping demoralised government soldiers would give up.

Rebel spokesman Tom Woewiyu, in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, said he would attend new peace talks in Freetown, Sierra Leone. This move, also suggested that the rebels' hopes of an early government surrender were fading.

The rebels also reportedly were hit by in-fighting among rival commanders, according to residents contacted by radio behind rebel lines in northern Liberia.

Unflinching belief in Taylor

Wife looks after kids, while hubby leads rebels

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island, July 9, (AP): While Charles Taylor was driving rebel forces against the president of Liberia, his wife was driving their children to summer camp and trying to rally support for her husband's rebellion.

Two Taylor children, 10 and 12, were seen in a car with their mother, Mrs Taylor, in a suburb of Monrovia. Mrs Taylor has not seen her husband for five years. But she is unflinching in her belief that her husband will overthrow Liberia's President Samuel Doe.

The rebels accuse Doe, who gained power of the tiny West African country in a bloody coup in 1980, of corruption, tribalism, and brutal suppression of the opposition.

Taylor, 42, and his forces invaded the West African country from the Ivory Coast on Dec 24. Mrs Taylor learned of the action when her husband telephoned on New Year's Day.

"I wasn't surprised or shocked," she said. "Someone had to do something. And if anyone would do it I know Charles would be the one. He's very determined and very, very intelligent."

Taylor's forces have continued to tighten their noose on the capital of Monrovia. Rebels besieging the capital rejected a cease-fire proposed by Doe and resumed fighting yesterday.

Rebel sources said Doe continued to decline an American offer of safe passage out of the country.

And 5,500 miles (8,850 kilometres) away, Mrs Taylor, 29, worked to promote her husband's cause while trying to maintain a normal life for her school-age children.

"The best I can do is to get as much publicity as I can," she said. "I am a Christian and I pray a lot. We don't want to be separated. But it's safer for us here."

The Taylors met in the United States through their involvement with Liberian student associations. She attended Seton Hall while he graduated from Bentley College with an economics degree.

"He always had political ambitions," she said. "He was always outspoken. He always spoke out about the injustices in Liberia and the need for democracy. If he is the next leader of Liberia, we'll have a better future. Things will be different."

The Taylors married in Liberia in 1980 and witnessed the coup that overthrew the late President William Tolbert.

It also has forced thousands of residents to flee their homes, restricted transportation and cut off food supplies.

In Monrovia, six policemen were assassinated between Friday and last night, bringing to 136 the number killed so far this year, according to a police report.

The report said five of the victims were off-duty, unarmed and wearing civilian clothing when they were killed, while the sixth was in uniform patrolling the streets on a motorcycle.

After one killing, soldiers chased and shot dead two assassins, police said.

Nicaragua strikes continue

Police threaten to open workplaces

MANGUA, July 9, (AP): Police threatened to pry open workplace doors which striking Sandinista Party sympathisers vowed to keep shut on the seventh day of a wave of walkouts to protest government policy.

"Police will guarantee workers free access to their respective jobs sites" beginning today, a police spokesman said.

"It is the obligation of all workers to go back to work tomorrow," President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro told the Associated Press

yesterday.

The police commune, released Saturday evening, warned citizens not to disturb the peace, conduct street demonstration without permission or block traffic.

Sandinista National Labour Front head Lucio Jimenez said the warnings will not convince an estimated 90,000 strikers to back off from their demand.

"Faced with a position of force, we have to respond the same way," Jimenez said Saturday.



President Violeta Chamorro

Brazil's land reform activists fear new round of rural violence

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil, July 19, (AP): The murders of 12 Amazon-based agrarian reform activists in recent months have raised fears that Brazil's long-standing land war may again burst into the open.

"The current government's slowness in carrying out agrarian reform has heated up the struggle for land," said Rev. Jeronimo Nunes, executive secretary for the Pastoral Land Commission, the Roman Catholic Church agency that defends landless peasants.

The most recent murder took place last Thursday when union leader Eudi Pereira da Silva was shot by a hired gunman in Sitio Novo, a small village in the Amazonian state of Tocantins.

Da Silva and several other unionists were invited to a nearby landowner's farm to discuss a dispute, said Adilar Daltoe, the Pastoral Land Commission's representative in the region. When they arrived, the "pistoleiro" opened fire, he said.

Daltoe, who spoke by telephone from

the city of Gurupi, 1,116 miles (1,800 kilometres) northwest of Rio, said another of the other unionists was seriously wounded but that all, except for Da Silva, escaped.

The same day Da Silva was murdered, 500 landless peasants—who had been recently expelled from two farms in the nearby city of Imperatriz—ransacked a supermarket and made off with rice, beans, sugar and coffee.

Sitio Novo is located in the so-called

Parrot's Beak region, formed at the juncture of the states of Para, Maranhao and Tocantins. The region has long been at the centre of a bloody land war between wealthy landowners and Brazil's estimated 10 million landless families.

Much of the region was settled up to 30 years ago by peasants from Brazil's poor, drought-ridden northeast. But wealthy landowners began arriving in the 1970s, often acquiring property by fraudulent means.

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "بكره ان ياتوا"

'Watching them grow old' motivated researcher

Parents inspired fountain of youth drug

MILWAUKEE, July 9, (AP): Watching his parents grow old in a nursing home helped motivate Dr. Daniel Rudman to seek a new use for a hormone therapy his research team found can reverse some of the damage of aging.

Researchers at veterans' hospitals in Milwaukee and Chicago, led by the 62-year-old endocrinologist, found that injections of human growth hormone, a once-rare protein made through genetic engineering, will help old people build up sagging muscles, take off flab and grow more youthful-looking skin.

However, Rudman cautions that the treatment is not the fountain of youth, and should not be used routinely until questions are answered about its long-term

effects and possible hazards.

The human growth hormone findings were published last week in the New England Journal of Medicine.

While his work in the field of hormone therapy has drawn attention in the past, "I'll tell you, this is the one that's brought the most interest," Rudman said. "This type of work really touches a nerve center."

Rudman was among a group of physicians in the 1960s and 1970s who used human growth hormone taken from pituitary glands in cadavers to treat children whose growth is retarded because they don't make enough of the protein.

The results "were truly remarkable," Rudman said. The children not only grew

quickly but also lost fat and rapidly grew lean muscle, he said.

During that period, Rudman visited his parents in nursing homes and was shocked by the poor medical care given to the residents.

"It was obvious to me that medical conditions in nursing homes were primitive compared to the kind of medicine that younger people get," he said.

On a hunch, Rudman said he decided to use the same blood test he was using for children to check for levels of human growth hormone in the elderly.

He interested other endocrinologists in his idea of testing the effect of human growth hormone on the elderly and began

some limited testing in 1980, he said.

Rudman began a pilot study at the Veterans Administration Medical Center near Chicago, and continued it when he moved to the Clement J. Zahlocki Veterans Medical Center in Milwaukee and the Medical College of Wisconsin in 1988.

All of the 12 healthy men ages 61 to 81 who had deficient levels of growth hormone and were given additional amounts of the hormone for six months showed significant physical improvements, Rudman said.

Their muscle mass grew, their skin became thicker and more youthful and their fat mass shrank, removing the effects of an estimated 20 years of aging.

Riots in Kenya rage on; 5 killed

NAIROBI, July 9, (AP): Police clashed with stone-throwing youths in Nairobi and violence spread to at least three other cities today on the third day of riots sparked by a thwarted pro-democracy rally. Police said at least one person was killed.

The death brings to at least five the number reported killed since the disturbances broke out after Saturday's rally turned violent and police used tear-gas and guns to disperse demonstrators.

Today was the first day the violence spread outside the capital city and was reported in Nakuru, Muranga and Nyeri, all north of Nairobi, where police dispersed demonstrators and stone-throwing youths.

In Nakuru, about 100 miles (160 kms) northeast of the capital city, hands of youths broke some store windows and looted some shops before police could bring the situation under control, according to a resident.

In Nairobi, clashes between security forces and mobs heaving flat-tires were reported in at least a half-dozen low-income residential areas ringing the city.

Riot police used clubs and guns to break up gangs and clear open-air markets where rioters burned a bus and used buildings and burning tires to create roadblocks.

In one neighbourhood, youths armed with stones prevented people from boarding buses. Some of the rioters were shouting "Moi Chini," Kiswahili for "down with Moi."

President Daniel Arap Moi, who left for Ethiopia today to attend the annual Organisation of African Unity summit, has not issued any comment on the disturbances.

However, he vehemently and repeatedly has rejected any move toward multiple parties, claiming the existence of about 40 tribes in Kenya would invite tribal-based parties, leading to ethnic divisions and even tribal warfare.

By early afternoon, Nairobi was tense, with shops closing and businesses shutting down as people fled the city to escape further violence. Public transportation appeared to have stopped, and thousands left on foot.

Shots rang out in the vicinity of the US embassy in downtown Nairobi. However, the fire did not appear directed at the embassy. The United States has urged the government by giving temporary asylum at the embassy to Gibson Kamau Kuria, a prominent human rights lawyer under threat of arrest for his criticism of Kenya's one-party rule.

Police said one person was killed today in the outlying neighbourhood of Kangemi, but did not give details.

The English-language Daily Nation newspaper said three people were killed in Sunday's disturbances.

Ten other people who were wounded, five of them by gunshots, were hospitalised in serious condition, and dozens of others have been wounded since the violence began Saturday, the newspaper said.

Hospitals provided no official casualty figures and the government issued no comment.

Kuria, a former detainee who in 1988 won the Robert F. Kennedy human rights award, sought refuge at the US embassy in Nairobi early Saturday, according to a statement released by the embassy today.

"He came on his own and asked for temporary refuge," said the statement. "He expressed a desire to leave the country. We are discussing this matter with the government of Kenya."

The West German embassy in Nairobi issued a warning meanwhile to its resident citizens to avoid the city centre after office hours and to keep the gas-tanks of their cars full.

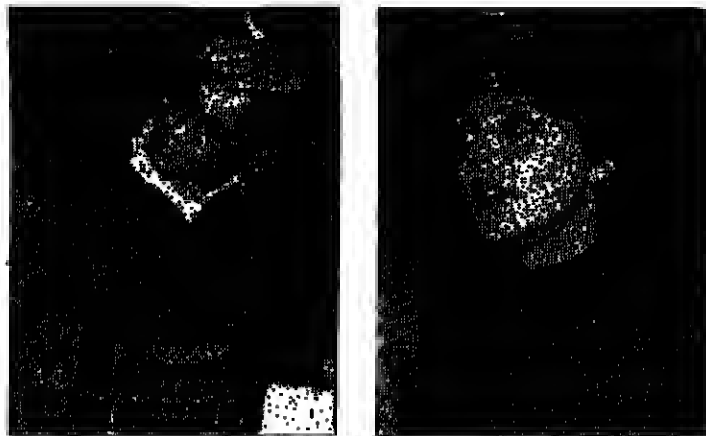
Weeping Boesak quits as minister

Congregation in total shock

JOHANNESBURG, July 9, (Reuters): One of South Africa's most prominent anti-apartheid activists, Calvinist cleric Allan Boesak, has resigned as a minister amid reports he had an extra-marital affair, his daughter Pulane said today.

The 44-year-old minister of the coloured (mixed-race) community's Dutch Reformed Mission Church has also offered to quit as president of the Geneva-based World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

"Yes, he has resigned," Pulane Boesak said. His wife Dorothy has accused him publicly of having an affair with television producer Elna Botha, 30-year-old niece of former Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha.



South African anti-apartheid cleric Allan Boesak (left), resigned from his ministry on Sunday after his wife alleged he had an affair with television producer Elna Botha (right). (Reuters wirephoto)

"This time he has gone too far. I cannot go through this. Our marriage is over," she told the Sunday Times.

Witnesses said Boesak wept after tendering his resignation in an address to his congregation in Cape Town's coloured township of Bellville South yesterday.

"The whole congregation is in absolute and total shock," his co-minister, Johan Retief, told reporters. "I don't see we can do anything but accept his resignation."

Church official A.J. Van Wyk said the resignation would become official when a formal letter was received and accepted by Boesak's local church council.

Boesak had an affair with a church worker five years ago but emerged politically unscathed because the scandal was exposed by security police surveillance. The church refused to consider police tapes because the source was tainted.

Boesak has played an important role in the anti-apartheid movement within South Africa's racially-segregated churches.

He helped lead the United Democratic Front, a coalition of dozens of anti-government organisations, and in 1982 was elected president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, which represents Calvinist churches in 76 countries.

He introduced a resolution declaring apartheid a heresy at the alliance's 1982 annual congress in Canada. As a result two white South African churches were suspended from the alliance.

From pulpit and public platform Boesak denounced intransigent whites and skillfully mimicked government leaders while proclaiming that black majority rule was at hand.

Ambitious, brave and always immaculately groomed, he led protest processions confronting armed white police.

He did not hesitate to dive into a black crowd in 1986 to rescue a suspected black police spy from a gruesome death.

Boesak was born on Feb 23, 1946, in the north-eastern Cape village of Kakamas. His father, a teacher, died when Boesak was seven, leaving his seamstress mother with eight children.

Whites threaten more violence

JOHANNESBURG, July 9, (Reuters): Right-wing militants issued a thinly-veiled threat of violence to South Africa's reformist government today, demanding a halt to arrests of whites suspected of bombings.

"If this does not happen then greater resistance and actions based on anger can be expected from the white side," the paramilitary Neo-Nazi Afrikaner Resistance Movement said.

"The minister of law and order is seriously warning that friendship with the ANC (African National Congress) and unity towards the Afrikaans people (Whites) will bring no solution but will lead to greater conflict that cannot easily be defused by the government," a statement said.

The movement, which wants a whites-only state, said the arrest at the weekend of nine right-wing whites in connection with bombings in Johannesburg showed the government was capitulating to communists in Nelson Mandela's ANC.

Police also seized a large quantity of plastic explosives, detonators, hand grenades and bullets.

The highest-ranking white Liberation Army said it would assassinate Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and ANC military leader Chris Hani unless the nine were freed.

In a statement littered with racist language, it claimed responsibility for a bombing last Friday which wounded 27 blacks, one of them critically, at a Johannesburg bus station.

Police announced they had detained a 10th person in connection with five bombings earlier this month that damaged a synagogue, an anti-apartheid newspaper and an office and homes of liberal politicians.

The 10 are held under section 29 of the Internal Security Act, the country's strictest security law which allows indefinite detention without trial. It is normally used for the questioning of anti-apartheid guerrillas.

One of the 10 is the former leader of the Johannesburg branch of the AWB, which operates armed groups nationwide.

Newspaper commentators have blamed the bombings on a growing right-wing backlash against reforms by President F.W. de Klerk aimed at ending 40 years of formal race segregation.

The 10 were detained after police confiscated documents from the home of Robert van Tonger, leader of the white supremacist Boersaats Party. Van Tonger is a close associate of the country's most wanted man, Piet Rudolph, sought in connection with the theft of arms from an air force arsenal.

"The government is busy recklessly intimidating right-wingers to try to impress the Communist Party so that this group will go to the negotiation table as quickly as possible," the AWB said.

The government and the ANC, which includes communists among its leadership, are due to resume preliminary talks this month on removing obstacles to full political negotiations.

The Conservative Party, the main right-wing parliamentary opposition, has condemned the bombings but says frustrations which provoke whites into violent action are understandable.

Special Report

Greatest air battle

Close-up view of World War II

LONDON, July 9, (AP): The Battle of Britain, history's greatest air battle, gave the British nation its first close-up view of World War II.

The public could watch, enthralled and terrified, as outnumbered Hurricane and Spitfire fighter planes scrambled from makeshift country airfields to take on fleets of German bombers and their fighter escorts, thundering across the English Channel from bases in newly conquered France.

Wrecked planes littered fields and beaches of southern England. Others sank in the sea. It was a desperate fight against the odds. But after 114 days — from July 10 to Oct 31 — the daylight bombing assaults were repelled, and Adolf Hitler received his first shock of the war.

Pat Hancock, then a 21-year-old Hurricane pilot, recalls being "very frightened," but he knew what he was fighting for.

"I knew the Germans were coming," he said, meaning that he knew Hitler intended to invade.

The Royal Air Force lost 1,023 planes and 537 flyers, 106 of them from nine other countries, including four US volunteers, 31 Poles, 18 Canadians and 17 New Zealanders.

The Nazis' Luftwaffe lost 2,662 flyers and 1,887 aircraft. The RAF pilots were mostly in their late teens or early 20s. They were burned alive or blown apart by cannon shells. They died in their parachutes, drowned or were smashed to bits as their stricken aircraft fell to Earth.

This summer the veterans are getting together for air displays, exhibitions, dances, and on Sept 15 a survivors' parade in London, with a 12-mile (19 km) column of veteran and modern aircraft flying over Buckingham Palace.

Hancock, who survived five crashes, is secretary of the Battle of Britain Fighter Association.

In August 1940, he managed to get back to base after being shot up by a Messerschmitt ME109 fighter. Two weeks later he shot up a German Heinkel 111 bomber.

Later, fighting in Malta and North Africa, he won the distinguished Flying Cross.

"The risk in all fighting was fire," Hancock recalled. "There were about 90 gallons (340 litres) of fuel almost in our laps and we were terrified of being burned."

"Waiting for orders on the airfield put us in a state of twitch. You didn't know when the telephone rang if it was some pilot's domestic problem or the controller ordering 'scramble!'"

James Pickford, then a 23-year-old gunner in a twin-engine Blenheim bomber recalled, "we were young and I didn't realise that something considerable was taking place. You didn't have time to be scared, but you were always thankful to get back."

"I didn't like takeoffs and I would say a prayer, but once the wheels were up I was happy. I slept between sheets and I had a good war."

Everything hinged on air mastery, and the Luftwaffe was then the world's largest air force. It had helped crush Poland in three weeks of 1939 and Denmark, Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg and France in less than three months of 1940. Hitler's air chief, Hermann Goering, was confident it would destroy the RAF, clearing the way for the invasion of England.

The Battle of Britain shattered these hopes. The daylight raids to knock out RAF fighter command, the airfields, radar stations, aircraft factories and docks were defeated and the Luftwaffe turned to bombing British cities by night. Hitler had originally ordered an invasion for July 16. In October he abandoned the plan.

Sir Winston Churchill, the wartime prime minister, gave the battle its name before it began, saying on June 18: "The Battle of France is over. I expect that the Battle of Britain is about to begin."

"The air battle put Britain back in the war after the fall of France (on June 14) and our retreat from Dunkirk," said historian A.J.P. Taylor.

"The British were invigorated for the rest of the war and the rest of the world, particularly the United States, was shown that Britain had to be taken seriously as a fighting power."

The brains behind the victory was Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Dowding, a World War I aviator like Goering but, unlike his opponent, keenly interested in technology.

Although the outward impression was of a small, poorly equipped British force fending off a vastly superior force, the RAF was in fact fairly well prepared with fighters, although not bombers.

In the 1930s, when air forces were still based on biplane fighters, the British Air Ministry learned through its intelligence agents of Hitler's buildup of his air force. The British began to consider how to go to war.

A few industrialists, designers and engineers were already working independently on faster monoplane fighters and when the ministry called for one, the Hawkers Company quickly came up with the Hurricane, Vickers-Supermarine a bit later with the Spitfire and Rolls-Royce with the Merlin engine to power them both.

Airplane factories were established before the war in several places and were able to tool up quickly for expanded production when the war began.

Dowding had been certain that war was coming. With scientific help, he developed the use of radar, then a top-secret innovation, to detect the approaching enemy.

He set up ground observer posts to report the enemy's direction, altitude and numbers, and radio communications among his fighters.

Battle of Britain

Recalling war terror

Editor's note — Associated Press correspondent Graham Heathcote was a 12-year-old schoolboy living in a village in southeast England during the Battle of Britain 50 years ago. He recalled watching the dogfights in the skies over the wheatfields and orchards of Kent.

LONDON, July 9, (AP): On one terrible day, four Hurricane fighters rushed up toward a huge formation of German planes. Although I was only 12 and understood little about war, I knew the odds looked impossible.

In less than two minutes, all four Hurricanes were shot down. I saw parachutes and I thought everything was coming down on top of us — blazing wreckage as well as the flyers. But air distance is deceptive and they all fell several miles (kilometres) away.

We tried to salvage bits of wreckage, but soldiers and police officers shooed us off.

During the Battle of Britain, I was a schoolboy amid the wheatfields, hop gardens and orchards of Kent in southeast England. It was a wonderful summer of long warm days and blue skies. But the tranquility was shattered day after day with the bursting of bombs and the roar of low-flying aircraft.

In one dogfight over Yorklets, our village, a Messerschmitt shot down a Hurricane and continued diving, firing back at a heavy machine-gun post.

I was 30 feet (10 metres) away and the noise was shattering. The Messerschmitt missed and tracer bullets were burning on the ground. The Hurricane pilot survived, but his plane was junk.

Fishing in the marshes on another day, I came close to death. A strafing Messerschmitt sprayed bullets at me. It was so sudden that I only dived to the ground after the plane had passed. I wasn't hurt.

Raiding German bombers flew over from France in high, tidy formations, their fighter escorts weaving among the Heinkels, Dorniers and Ju88s.

On a clear day you could see planes fighting three miles (5 kms) high, black dots weaving about. You could hear the short bursts from British machine guns and the slower, louder tack-tack-tack from heavier German cannons.

Scattered by the RAF planes, the German formations would fly home, fast, but I was enough for us to make out their swastikas and black crosses.

I once looked up into the face of a Messerschmitt pilot who scraped the tops of the tall elm trees with a spitfire on his tail, and he looked at me.

If the bombers were driven back before they reached their military targets, they dropped their bombs anywhere, destroying homes and cratering fields.

At twilight after a day of heavy bombing on Sept. 15, we could see the sky was all red over London, 45 miles (70 kms) away. That night the wind carried to us the smell of London burning.

Dowding and his front-line commander in southeast England, Air Vice-Marshal Keith Park of New Zealand, deployed the fighters sparingly in small groups when the enemy was near, instead of using them in standing patrols which would have worn out machines and men.

The RAF had the advantage of fighting close to home and could salvage more men and machines than the enemy.

The sleek Spitfire roughly matched the stumpy ME109, while the rugged Hurricane was slower. But Hurricanes outnumbered Spitfires 5-3 and shot down more aircraft than the rest of the RAF and anti-aircraft guns combined.

The ME109's guns could deliver nearly twice as much metal in a three-second burst as the British fighters. But the Germans did not give the flyers escorting their bombers extra fuel tanks, so they had no more than 10 minutes of combat time if they reached London.

Importance

London is losing place

LONDON, July 9, (Kunak): London is losing its place as the focus of Britain's economic and cultural activity and faces diminishing global importance, according to a report published here today.

Skill shortage, increasing traffic congestion and "disenchantment with the quality of life" will continue to undermine confidence in the British capital.

It lacks a "champion and an identity," said the Henley Centre for Economic Forecasting in its report "local futures".

"There seems to be no buzz, no appetite for the future, no urgency attending the discussion of its identity. The image lacks shape, confidence and daring."

The report showed that out of the top 500 United companies, 28 fewer have head offices in London than in 1984.

The combined average rent and rates bill for office space in Central London is £88 per square foot, compared with £35 just outside the capital.

Titanic tragedy

Inquiry after 78 years

LONDON, July 9, (AP): A government inquiry is to be held into the conduct of a steamship captain who was criticised for not going to the aid of the Titanic when the ocean liner sank 78 years ago, a published report said today.

The Daily Telegraph said Transport Department investigators will examine testimony from the 1912 Titanic inquiry and a mass of additional material to throw light on the role of the late Capt Stanley Lord.

Evidence of the wreck's position from US oceanographer Robert Ballard, who located it in 1985, will be crucial, the newspaper said. Lord was master of the Boston-bound Californian, believed to have been the nearest ship to the Titanic when the British liner struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic while steaming to New York on its maiden voyage in April 1912.

More than 1,500 of the 2,200 people aboard died, many because of a shortage of lifeboats.

Ready for ceasefire

LISBON, July 9, (Reuters): US-backed Angolan rebels said today they would be prepared to sign a ceasefire with the leftist government in talks due later this month in Portugal.

"Units reiterates its readiness for peace in Angola, and is prepared to sign a ceasefire at the next round of negotiations," the political bureau of Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) said in a communique received in Lisbon.

The bureau, which met at the weekend in Unita's bush headquarters at Jamba in southern Angola, upgraded its negotiating team which will be headed by Information Secretary Jorge Alencar Valentim.

Cicciolina embrace with US artist rocks Venice Biennale modern art festival

VENICE, July 9, (Reuters): A plastic statue depicting an erotic embrace between a porn queen turned politician and a New York artist has unashamedly stolen the show at one of the world's leading art festivals.

Flat on her back and sporting silver high heels and little else, the queen clasps her hands to her ears as her smiling, naked partner bends over her. The statue has sharply divided visitors to Venice's Biennale modern art festival.

The porn queen is Ilona Staller, better known as Cicciolina (little cuddly one) to the Italians who

elected her to Parliament for the maverick Radical Party.

Her plastic partner is the life-size statue's author, Jeff Koons — until five years ago a broker on Wall Street and hailed by his admirers as the new guru of Kitsch.

The garish statue, surrounded by three blown-up photographic stills from a film made by the two, has swiftly become a must for visitors to the Biennale section where works by artists under 35 are displayed.

Only children under 14 will miss out as they have

been banned from the section because of the statue.

Many visitors and reviewers have reacted strongly against Koons and his work.

"This is not pornography aspiring to the condition of art but rather art that wants to be pornography. All promise, no substance," wrote British art critic Andrew Graham-Dixon.

"My art has always had recourse to sexuality as a way of establishing direct communication with the spectator," he said.

The Venice Biennale would not be its old self without such controversy. Founded as a forum for

the avant-garde in 1895, it has regularly had more than its fair share of financial problems and political bickering.

This year is no exception. Giovanni Carandente, the head of its visual arts section, has for the second year running had to drop projects because of a shortage of funds.

"The difficult life of the festival has reached a critical point. If the government doesn't apply a radical remedy, with a new less rigid statute and regular funding, it risks choking to death before the year 2000," he said.

INTERNATIONAL

NEWS IN BRIEF

Europe

Smoking risks children's lives: Parents who smoke an average of 20 cigarettes a day each are putting their children's lives seriously at risk, according to a warning issued in London yesterday.

They are forcing youngsters of seven and under to smoke the equivalent of eighty cigarettes a year.

New British research published yesterday confirms for the first time that children suffer "a appalling damage" to their lungs and heart from breathing in nicotine fumes.

Doctor Chris Steele, who runs clinics to help smokers quit the habit, was quoted this morning by the British media as saying "If you have children, you are not likely to continuously empty bags of asbestos round them. But if you smoke you might as well be doing just that."

The British findings, which came after this research in Scotland headed by Doctor Steele, was backed up by an American study, showing children begin to suffer after just a few months' exposure to passive smoking. (Kuna)

Ireland to improve ties with UK: British and Irish government ministers this week will begin attempts to resolve differences over plans to initiate a new political dialogue in Northern Ireland, it was reported yesterday.

Following soundings at senior official level, Irish Foreign Minister Gerry Collins is expected to fly to London for talks with the Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Brooke this Friday, official sources said.

The extent of the Anglo-Irish gap became apparent last week when Brooke had to scrap an announcement of a schedule for cross-party negotiations in Northern Ireland.

Instead, he presented only a far from definitive progress report to the British House of Commons, observers noted.

Brooke's change of course followed clear signals from Dublin that the Irish would find the form of his then-anticipated announcement unacceptable. (Kuna)

Two injured in gun attack: A police officer and an alleged gunman were shot and seriously injured in an attack early Sunday morning on a Royal Ulster Constabulary patrol in Dunganon, 50 miles (80 km) west of Belfast, authorities said.

An RUC spokesman said gunmen launched the attack from an automobile in the town's centre at about 1 am.

As the foot patrol passed near the car, the gunmen opened fire with automatic weapons, hitting one policeman. A bomb thrown at police failed to explode, the spokesman said.

The patrol returned the gunfire, injuring one man who police said was one of the gunmen. The others escaped, police said.

The injured policeman was taken to Dunganon hospital, where his condition was reported as serious. (UPI)

Taxi drivers strike: East Berlin taxi-drivers went on strike yesterday and demonstrated outside City Hall. They want lower fares.

Since the two Germans merged their economies eight days ago, fares in East Berlin have more than doubled to match West Berlin rates.

Although East Germany has officially become a free market economy, state bodies still fix many prices, including taxi fares. Politicians have acknowledged some rates are too high.

Passengers who used to wait hours for a cab now shun them. The taxis wait empty for hours and drivers say they could earn as much on the dole. (Reuters)

Communists linked with terrorists: East Germany's deposed communist leadership maintained links with any known terrorist group that would help destabilise Western nations, the country's interior minister said in an interview.

Before their ouster last fall, the communist leaders were willing to deal with "all terrorist groups known to us," Peter-Joachim Diestel told the West German newspaper Die Welt.

Specifically, the now-disbanded Ministry for State Security, or Stasi as it is known in German, "maintained at least informal contacts" with the Basque separatist group ETA and the Irish Republican Army, which seeks to overthrow British rule over Northern Ireland, Diestel said. (AP)

Major general heads KGB: In June 1989, six men armed with metal pipes surrounded Maj. Gen. Alexander N. Karbainov in the midst of an ethnic riot in the Fergana valley of Uzbekistan.

"They didn't know exactly who I was, but they guessed my general role because I was a Russian," said Karbainov. As deputy chief of the KGB directorate for the Protection of Constitutional Rights, he was on a mission to assess the ethnic violence, which had killed dozens of people.

A year later, Karbainov's mission is different: Improving the image of the Committee for State Security, or KGB, as head of its new centre for public relations.

Asia

Nepal epidemic toll 57: The death toll reached 57 Monday from an epidemic of cholera and gastroenteritis plaguing Nepal, with hospitals in the capital admitting more than 200 people each day, officials said.

The epidemic has killed 10 people in Kathmandu, where patients at overcrowded hospitals have begun sleeping on floors and tables and sharing beds.

"We decided yesterday at a meeting to (establish) open-ended camps inside the hospital premises," said Dr Rita Hamal of Kanti hospital. The hospital has only 12 beds to treat diarrhoeal diseases. (UPI)

Singapore's first heart transplant: The first heart transplant in Singapore was performed by a team of doctors, one of them a Malaysian, at the Singapore General Hospital last night, it was reported in Kuala Lumpur Monday.

The report said 43-year-old Malaysian, Dr Lim Yew Cheng, a consultant heart surgeon played a major role in the surgery, which marked a milestone in the republic's medical history.

The heart came from a 41-year-old construction worker, an industrial accident victim. The recipient is a 59-year-old man. His condition was reported to be satisfactory. (Kuna)

27 die in Shaanxi flooding: Torrential rains have caused 27 deaths in three days in the northern Chinese province of Shaanxi, an official report said Monday.

The rain, which began Friday, swept through 18



Little learner

Deirdre Treher, 2-1/2, stares up at the double bass yesterday during a visit to the Sydney Opera House where youngsters were encouraged to hear, see and touch the instruments of the Cove Chamber Orchestra after a school holiday recital. (Reuters wirephoto)

Oesophagus cancer

New treatment

TOKYO, July 9, (Kuna): Japanese doctors at the National Cancer Centre have discovered a new treatment for oesophagus cancer, attacking minute metastasised tumours directly, thus preventing the original neoplasm from spreading, it was reported today.

Team leader Hiroshi Watanabe announced that the treatment was confirmed to have dramatically prolonged the lives of 75 cancer patients on whom he tried the new method.

Oesophagus cancer is rated as the most difficult cancer to treat, mainly because the disease often spreads to adjacent organs before it is detected.

In an attempt to suppress the metastasis, Watanabe thought of a treatment method of continuously concentrating anticancer agents, such as bleomycin, on connective and fat tissues around the oesophagus where minute metastasised tumours are suspected to be spreading.



Defence pact

Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis shakes hands with US Secretary of Defence Dick Cheney yesterday, before they signed the 6,740 pages signed by Sir Robert Menzies in 1939-41 and 1949-50.

cities and counties in northern Shaanxi, causing at least 300 million yuan (\$60 million) in damage, the English-language China Daily said.

As much as 193 millimetres (7.6 inches) of rain fell in parts of Shaanxi, and thousands of villagers were stranded when dikes along the Hanjiang river broke, the report said. It quoted local officials as saying such severe flooding along the river happens only once every 30 years. (AP)

Second-longest PM: Bob Hawke becomes Australia's second longest-serving prime minister on Tuesday, his 2,679th day in office.

Hawke, 60, tied his predecessor, Malcolm Fraser, on Monday. He still ranks far behind the 6,740 days served by Sir Robert Menzies in 1939-41 and 1949-50.

Hawke took the occasion to say time should be spent working out how to attack constitutional anomalies. (AP)

Malaysia hopeful: Malaysia's defence minister said Monday he felt no single faction should emerge as winner in the settlement of the Cambodian conflict, but that emphasis should be on the welfare and future of its people.

The Defence Minister, Ahmad Rithauden, speaking to reporters during a meeting with his visiting Australian counterpart, Lt Gen. H.J. Coates, also said he hoped China would remain involved in the negotiations.

"We hope that China will continue its role in solving the 11-year-old Cambodian conflict," Rithauden said. (UPI)

Vietnamese official hopeful: A Vietnamese high-ranking official said today he is confident with the help of the United Nations, his country's problem with Malaysia over the Vietnamese "boat people" could be solved.

Vice-chairman of the Vietnamese council of ministers, Gen. (R) Vo Nguyen Giap said: "We will continue to talk to solve the problem with the assistance of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and I believe it can be solved."

He told a news conference here at the end of an official five-day visit to Malaysia, he had detailed discussions with the Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba on the issue. (Kuna)

Japan to unfreeze China loans

China's financial situation 'still fairly grim': Wang

TOKYO, July 9, (Reuters): Japan will unfreeze loans to China some time after this week's summit of major industrialised democracies in Houston. Japan's chief cabinet secretary Mitsuji Sakamoto said today.

Diplomats said Japan's decision to resume yen loans marked the end of a year of walking a diplomatic tightrope, trying to please both Washington and Beijing, diplomats said.

In the clearest statement so far on the change, Sakamoto told a news conference: "I think (loans to China) will be resumed on Japan's decision, in good time, after the Houston summit."

One government official said the decision was likely to be formally announced by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu in protest once he had consulted his G-7 summit allies France, the United States, Canada, Britain, West Germany and Italy.

BEIJING, July 9, (AP): After months of upbeat reports on economic recovery, China's government released grim figures today for 1990's first six months that showed particularly poor performance by state-owned industry.

Finance Minister Wang Bingqian, speaking at the opening of the National Working Conference on Finance in Beijing, characterised China's financial situation as "still fairly grim," the official Xinhua news agency reported.

Wang said China was afflicted by that cycle in 1986, "when economic rectification came to a premature end."

Domestic revenue for 1990's first half accounted for less than 40 per cent of the state budget, or 121.94 billion yuan (\$25 billion) — a 10.5 per cent

increase over the same period last year, Xinhua reported.

Domestic expenditure of 123 billion yuan (\$26 billion), meanwhile, was about 39 per cent of the state budget, a 12 per cent increase over last year, it said.

"The execution of the national budget was not satisfactory enough in the first half of this year," the report said.

Xinhua quoted Wang as blaming China's economic woes on low industrial production, a sluggish market and insufficient control over expenditures.

He called for continued tightening of finance and credit, warning that "if (they are) relaxed and demand is artificially stimulated, there will surely be a sinister circle of 'inflation-austerity-inflation' again."

The only other statistics in the report were for state-owned enterprises, which for years have been a drain on China's finances.

Compared with the same period last year, their output value dropped 0.5 per cent while sales revenue dropped 2.4 per cent.

Profits plummeted more than 59 per cent, and the number of enterprises operating at a loss rose 14 per cent to more than one-third of all state-owned industrial enterprises. The report did not figure beyond the percentages.

China's industry still is reeling from the impact of a government austerity programme, begun in late 1988, that has sharply cut official spending, new construction and credit.

At their 1989 summit, the seven suspended new official credits to China in protest against Beijing's military crack-down on student-led demonstrations in June that year.

"Here is Japan saying no to loans for the Soviet Union and yes to loans for China," one Asian diplomat said. "That will go down well in Beijing, which, while dissatisfied Tokyo waited so long, will be pleased it is resuming so openly."

Other G-7 members, while criticising human rights in China, have provided new credits in one form or another.

Sakamoto explained the decision. "I don't think China has been completely democrat-

ised, but it has made efforts, though they are not sufficient," he said. "The isolation of China, does not have a good influence on Asia and the Pacific region."

See also Page 14

Seoul official's ouster sought

SEOUL, July 9, (UPI): The ruling Democratic Liberal Party moved today to oust an opposition lawmaker for assaulting a government legislator on the floor of Parliament during a debate over bills to restructure the nation's broadcasting system.

Ruling party lawmakers met and adopted a resolution demanding that "the heaviest disciplinary action" be taken against Kim Young-Jin, a member of Kim Dae Jung's Party for Peace and Democracy, for causing injuries to a fellow legislator.

Under law "the heaviest disciplinary action" against a lawmaker means expulsion from Parliament. The government party controls more than two-thirds of the 299 National Assembly seats.

The clash took place Saturday when opposition politicians blocked the government-proposed bills from being tabled at the National Assembly culture-information committee.

Kim Young-Jin threw a name plate at government lawmaker Choi Jae-Wook, who was hit in the face and suffered a cut on a lip and in the mouth. Choi has been hospitalised for treatment.

Ruling party legislators in their resolution termed Kim's assault an "unprecedented act of barbarism and violence against parliamentary democracy." They also demanded criminal proceedings against Kim Young-Jin.

Kim Dae Jung, as the party leader, apologised for the incident. "I am sorry for what happened," Kim said at a news conference. "I pray for Mr. Choi's early recovery."

Opposition politicians oppose the proposed bills, which they claim represent a scheme for the government to regain control of radio and television networks.

The bills seek to realign the state-run Korea Broadcasting System, create a new privately owned radio-television network, and enable a public appointed broadcast commission to order the suspension of programme and advertisements.

Government officials have said the proposed restructuring of the broadcasting system was needed to open means of electronic media to more users, accommodate demands for more varied information and more time for advertisements, and upgrade management of existing networks through keener competition.

They said they are willing to change the original legislation to remove elements that may be regarded as means of government control of the media. They said they will study any proposals the opposition has to make.

Kim Dae Jung also said he will stage an all-out struggle against the government of President Roh Tae-Woo if it does not implement local autonomy this year as was agreed in December by the government and opposition parties.

A local autonomy bill is pending before the assembly but sharp differences between the ruling party and the opposition over part of the proposed law has stalled deliberation.

North Korea told its people today that anyone who favours Western-style freedoms must be "mentally deranged."

Japan, and all other countries which import timber from our homeland, as those responsible for the destruction of our livelihood," said a declaration, signed with fingerprints by the headmen of indigenous tribes in Sarawak.

The state's forests are being logged so rapidly that tribes such as the Penan fear they may soon be without their traditional jungle home.

Swiss naturalist Bruno Manser, who spent six years living with the Penan, is carrying their message around the world. The tribes demand their government withdraw all the logging licenses granted for their area.

"The harmony of the tribes is being destroyed by logging... which is not being done to meet regional needs but by big companies for export, mainly to Japan," Manser said.

Japan's giant trading houses handle all aspects of the timber trade from financing to transportation to importation. Sarawak exports half its timber to Japan and Sabah 70 per cent, Japan says.

Reuters asked Akira Taniguchi, Marubeni's general manager of lumber and wood products, whether his company would respond to the campaigners' plea to stop importing timber from Sarawak and Sabah.

"To stop or not it is not something for us to decide," he said. "If we did stop, it would be to the locals since it is something that they have to decide," Taniguchi said.



Congratulations

Philippine Army officers cheer each other after being cleared of involvement in the December coup attempt and released from prison yesterday. Some 44 officers, pledged allegiance to the flag and constitution during ceremonies at a Manila military camp. (Reuters wirephoto)

Cory hails US plan

Access to Singapore won't affect Manila stance

MANILA, July 9, (AP): President Corazon Aquino today welcomed US plans to negotiate an agreement allowing American access to military facilities in Singapore.

Mrs Aquino said this agreement would not weaken Manila's position in negotiations for a new bases treaty with Washington.

"We have always said we would like other countries to share in the burden and responsibility of hosting the US military facilities in our bases, so I think it is something we would welcome," Mrs Aquino told a news conference.

"It is a position of the United States that the region benefits from their

presence here and we would like to hear from other countries whether they share the same sentiments," Mrs Aquino said.

Last Friday, the US Department of Defence said Washington will hold a new round of talks on a proposed defence agreement with Singapore that would allow US access to military facilities there.

The accord would not give the United States its own military base in Singapore and no US planes or ships would be based there permanently, said Defence Department spokesman Lt Cmdr Edward H. Lundquist.

Fiji coup leader to run for premiership

Rabuka spells ambitions

SUVA, Fiji, July 9, (AP): The commander of the army, who led two racially inspired coups in 1987, says he wants to become prime minister after elections are held so he can push indigenous Fijian interests in parliament.

Major-General Sitiveni Rabuka, 41, told the Australian Associated Press over the weekend that he intends to run for office unless he is "specifically asked to stay on in the army."

Asked if he aimed to become prime minister, he replied: "Yes."

Rabuka also raised the possibility of rejoining Fiji's post-coup interim government if invited by President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganiela and Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara. He stepped down in January as home-affairs minister to devote his time to the military.

Rabuka said he hoped to meet with Ganiela this week to discuss his ambitions.

Mara, 70, who governed Fiji for 17 years before losing elections to an ethnic Indian-domin-

ated coalition before the coups, has indicated he will not be part of the new parliament.

A draft constitution approved last month by the great council of chiefs would give indigenous Melanesian Fijians political dominance over other races.

Melanesians would have a guaranteed majority in both houses in Parliament.

Mara has said he hopes to have the constitution promulgated in the next few months, paving the way for elections by early next year.

The opposition has called the draft racist. In late May, the government ordered the Indian embassy closed and its diplomats expelled after New Delhi said it would mount an international campaign against Fiji over the constitution.

Despite its guarantees, Rabuka said the constitution alone would be "useless" without someone pushing pro-Fijian interests.

"You cannot do that unless you are there in government," he said.

Negros rebels kidnap 4 more

BACOLOD, Philippines, July 9, (AP): Communist rebels abducted a mayor's son and three others at a checkpoint on Negros Island where guerrillas are keeping an American and a Japanese aid worker, the military said today.

The abduction took place yesterday in Calatrava town, 530 kms (330 miles) southeast of Manila, after rebels raided the home of a policeman, killing him and his female cousin, a military report said.

The report said Tranquilino Carmona Jr, 21, son of the San Carlos city mayor, was dragged down along a highway and forced out of his vehicle along with his three friends, sons of affluent landlords in the province.

Carmona's driver, who was released unharmed by the New People's Army rebels, reported the incident to police.

The kidnapping occurred while local officials were negotiating with Negros rebels for the release of US Peace Corps volunteer Timothy Swanson and Japanese aid worker Fumio Mizuno.

Intercepts operating in Negros abducted Swanson on June 13 in the remote mountain village of Silay city, about 50 kms (30 miles) west of Calatrava. On May 29, Mizuno also was kidnapped.

A statement purportedly coming from the rebels said last week that the two aid workers would be freed this month after a revolutionary court cleared them of spy charges.

Negros is among several rebel strongholds in this island nation. Insurgents recently have stepped up attacks on government forces and abducted local governments and military officials and private citizens suspected of counter-insurgency.

Critics claim that the facilities, nominally under Philippine control, violate the sovereignty of the country, a former US colony.

Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus, chief Philippine negotiator in the bases talks, said the Singapore offer will help achieve a regional consensus on the US military presence in the region.

"While it is a positive step in the solution to a regional understanding, it is not a complete solution to a regional understanding," Manglapus told Reuters.

Manglapus has often complained that southeast Asian nations privately support the bases but refuse to say so publicly, making the Philippines shoulder responsibility for playing host to the installations.

Ecologists urge Japan to help save rain forest; get half-hearted response

TOKYO, July 9, (Reuters): Ecologists want Japan, the world's biggest importer of tropical wood, to help save the vanishing rain forests.

But they say that so far the response from industry and government has been half-hearted at best.

"Five years ago the government said logging was not a problem. Now they admit there is a problem. That is the only change," said Yoichi Kuruda, co-ordinator of the Japan Tropical Forest Action Network (Jatan).

Part of the problem is the fact that public awareness here of the plight of rain forests is only just beginning to develop.

Kuruda and a handful of forest activists staged a two-

day protest vigil last month outside the offices of the huge Marubeni trading house, which is responsible for the biggest volume of tropical timber imports into Japan.

Sobriety suited office workers cast at most a quick glance at the colourful knot of bodies and banners as they walked by.

Eighty-five to 90 per cent of tropical wood bought by Japan comes from the Malaysian states of Sarawak and Sabah.

The forests are floodlit at night so logging can go on round the clock to help fuel Japan's construction boom.

Malaysian journalist Baradan Kuppusamy said: "We want to point a finger at you, the Government of

Japan, and all other countries which import timber from our homeland, as those responsible for the destruction of our livelihood," said a declaration, signed with fingerprints by the headmen of indigenous tribes in Sarawak.

The state's forests are being logged so rapidly that tribes such as the Penan fear they may soon be without their traditional jungle home.

Swiss naturalist Bruno Manser, who spent six years living with the Penan, is carrying their message around the world. The tribes demand their government withdraw all the logging licenses granted for their area.

"The harmony of the tribes is being destroyed by logging... which is not being done to meet regional needs but

by big companies for export, mainly to Japan," Manser said.

Japan's giant trading houses handle all aspects of the timber trade from financing to transportation to importation. Sarawak exports half its timber to Japan and Sabah 70 per cent, Japan says.

Reuters asked Akira Taniguchi, Marubeni's general manager of lumber and wood products, whether his company would respond to the campaigners' plea to stop importing timber from Sarawak and Sabah.

"To stop or not it is not something for us to decide," he said. "If we did stop, it would be to the locals since it is something that they have to decide," Taniguchi said.

سكراة سكرية

Shakeup in Albania amid refugee crisis

Thousands take shelter in Tirana foreign embassies

VIENNA, July 9, (Agencies): Albania announced more government changes today as the first group of an estimated 6,000 refugees sheltered in foreign embassies prepared to leave the country.

The official news agency ATA, monitored in Vienna, reported that four ministers responsible for economic affairs had been replaced. Albania's interior minister and several other hardliners were sacked on Saturday after thousands of refugees wanting to leave the Stalinist state stormed embassies.

ATA said the ministers of light industry, food industry, public services and internal trade had been replaced.

Today's shakeup was restricted to ministers dealing with the economy and appeared calculated to appease discontent over shortages in food and other items and other economic problems with Albania's state-run economy.

Thousands of Albanians crowding foreign embassies in Tirana in an attempt to emigrate have said they seek a better economic life abroad.

The first of thousands of Albanians who have sought refuge in foreign embassies in an attempt to emigrate are to leave today by special plane for Czechoslovakia, the Prague Foreign Ministry announced.

Albanians 'packed' in embassies

BUDAPEST, July 9, (Reuters): Albanian refugees are lying in rows in the garden of the French Embassy in Tirana, according to a Hungarian Red Cross official.

Andre Szabo, head of the international department of the Hungarian Red Cross who flew out of Tirana yesterday, said there was "order and discipline at the Hungarian Embassy, where 40 Albanians have taken refuge in the past week."

"In the French Embassy, which is next to the Hungarian, people were lying in rows in the garden under the open sky," he told the Hungarian news agency MTI.

About 6,000 Albanian refugees seeking to emigrate are packed into embassies in Tirana,

half of them in West Germany's mission. France said yesterday there were 544 refugees in its embassy.

Szabo said most of the refugees at the Hungarian Embassy wanted to emigrate because of financial problems. Some mentioned political reasons.

Most wanted to go to "some great and far-away country," he said. Seven of the 40 wanted to go to Hungary.

Albania has insisted it will let the refugees go West, but blamed some missions for delaying their departure.

Greece today denied an Albanian television report that it was refusing visas to Albanians of Greek origin.

The announcement followed accusations by Albanian officials that foreign diplomats in Tirana were deliberately slowing the emigration process to cause instability.

Asylum

Diplomats and Foreign Ministry officials from other countries harbouring asylum-seekers in their embassies said today they also were trying to negotiate a quick solution. But with thousands of Albanians in some embassies, the process was expected to take days.

All 51 Albanians in the Czechoslovak embassy in Tirana are expected to arrive in Prague late today, Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Vojtech Wagner told the Associated Press in Prague.

He said only one or two wanted to remain in Czechoslovakia. The rest, he said, wanted to go to the United States or Australia.

A Soviet-built TU-154 aircraft, normally used by Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel, left Prague for Tirana this afternoon to pick up the refugees, officials said.

Processing

The asylum-seekers, some dodging police bullets, began taking refuge in foreign embassies in Tirana on June 28. Albanian authorities pledged Saturday that the more than 5,000 Albanians seeking to emigrate could leave under foreign supervision.

The French Foreign Ministry said the processing of passport applications for the 550 refugees in the French embassy in Tirana was moving rapidly. "We hope they will be finished by the end of the day," said a spokesman in Paris, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A spokesman at the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, Gyorgy Lukacs, told the AP that six of 40 Albanians in his country's embassy in Tirana had expressed a desire to settle in Hungary. He said most of the others wanted to go to the United States.

There was no official reaction from Washington to the desire of many of the Albanians to travel to the United States.

Refugees

An Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman said there were between 300 and 400 refugees at that country's embassy in Tirana.

Italian Sen. Franco Salvi said in Rome, after returning Sunday from a private visit to Tirana, that 900 Albanian asylum-seekers wanted to come to Italy. Apparently, refugees at other embassies had expressed a desire to emigrate to Italy.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, the Italian Foreign Ministry spokesman said Italy and other Western European countries were trying to determine which of the asylum-seekers were political refugees and which were seeking to emigrate for economic reasons. He did not specify whether the two groups would be treated differently.

Albania, a country of 3.2 million people of the Adriatic Sea, is the last nation in Europe still under the tight control of hard-line communists.

Reform

Communist leader Ramiz Alia began this year to institute some cautious economic reforms in an attempt to alleviate shortages of products and raise the standard of living by creating incentives for workers and farmers.

But the leadership has staunchly rejected any political pluralism for fear it could lead to the kind of groundswell democracy movement that swept hard-line communists from power last year in Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Romania and Bulgaria.



Gorbachev among workers

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev (left) poses among workers and peasants representatives at the 29th Congress of the ruling Communist Party in the Kremlin on Sunday while an unidentified delegate (centre) looks at Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov (right). (Reuters wirephoto)

Kremlin on Sunday while an unidentified delegate (centre) looks at Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov (right). (Reuters wirephoto)

Politburo changes approved

Leaders of each of 15 republics to be included

MOSCOW, July 9, (Agencies): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev won a critical behind-the-scenes struggle today to create a new Communist Party politburo expected to champion his reforms and push for a looser federation.

The party congress voted to require the politburo, the country's key ruling body, to be made up of the general party secretary, his deputy and the first secretaries of the communist parties in the 15 Soviet republics.

The change guarantees that the small group of primarily Russian men who traditionally ruled the Soviet Union would be replaced by

largely pro-reform, non-Russian communists.

Most of the Republic Party leaders want the political sovereignty, market economy and looser union of states advocated by Gorbachev.

Until now, the ruling Politburo has been chosen by the 250-member central committee, which is expected to be dominated by conservatives when it is elected by the congress later this week.

The new Politburo membership will be completely different since none of the 15 Republic Party chiefs are now members of the 2-person body. The central committee also will no longer have control over the core of the Politburo because the Republic parties choose their own leaders.

The Communist Party's general secretary and deputy will be chosen by the congress, which meets once every five years.

Gorbachev is expected to be elected to continue as general secretary, despite criticism of his political and economic reforms from delegates to the congress last week.

Some delegates said that Gorbachev may be allowed to virtually hand-pick his deputy.

A weary-looking Gorbachev took the floor of the 28th party Congress this afternoon after winning preliminary approval for his proposal from the rules committee after four hours of "heated" discussions.

After announcing the rules committee had approved his plan, Gorbachev sat down and said quietly, "let's vote."

The key congress vote on changing the Politburo membership to include the republic leaders was 3,325-839.

Gorbachev told delegates that others could be added to the Politburo by the central committee from among its members. But the final rules did not mention this provision.

Already, seven of the 12 men on the current Politburo have said they will resign or have hinted of the possibility.

Any decentralization in the Soviet Union would give the republics more power over their own affairs.

Most Republic leaders also believe their areas will fare better under a market economy than under continued central planning. They contend that central planning has consumed their republics' resources without giving much in return.

Gorbachev said the new structure would allow the 15 republic parties to act independently, and to really influence the central committee and Politburo.

The 15 Republic party chiefs include Vaino Vyalas of Estonia and Givi Gumbaridze of Georgia, whose republics are pushing for complete independence from the Soviet Union, and lesser reformers Pyotr Luchinsky of Moldavia, Ayaz N. Mutalibov of Azerbaijan and Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan.

Soviet miners to defy appeal

MOSCOW, July 9, (AP): Miners said today they were going ahead with a one-day protest strike later this week despite an appeal for labour peace from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and other communist leaders.

"We no longer consider the Communist Party of the Soviet Union our party," said Vasily Grinev, a member of the strike committee in the country's second largest coal field, the Kuznetsk basin in the western Ukraine. Miners in the largest coal region, the Don river basin of the Ukraine, met for 12 hours Sunday and resolved to go ahead with the strike on Wednesday.

The miners are angry over shortages of housing, food and other consumer goods, and resented that Gorbachev's reform will raise prices without giving them any benefits.

The 28th congress of the Soviet Communist Party last week urged miners not to strike. Gorbachev repeated that appeal in a televised interview last night, warning workers not to take what he called "an illegal path."

"Everybody should understand that this is not the time for ultimatums," Gorbachev said in a Soviet television interview taped in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses, where the party congress is meeting.

After a nation-wide coal strike last summer, the government passed new rules requiring workers to complete a complicated procedure before they could legally strike. But miners in Vorikta have been striking periodically over the past year.

Despite the appeals, feelings of anger and independence were growing among miners in the Donbass, western Siberia and Vorkuta in the Arctic. They plan to send only skeleton shifts into the shafts Wednesday morning and stage demonstrations.

Workers at the Zhigulskiy automobile works in Togliatti plan to hold a sympathy meeting during the lunch break, but will not stop production, said Ivan Baryshnikov, a workers' spokesman.

KGB chief slams renegade general

Rejoinder to Kalugin remarks

MOSCOW, July 9, (UPI): The head of the Soviet intelligence agency attacked a dissident former high-ranking KGB official today as an opportunist who disclosed state secrets to further his own career.

Vladimir Kryuchkov, the KGB chief and a member of the Communist Party's ruling Politburo, used a speech at the 28th party congress to attack outspoken former KGB Maj. Gen. Oleg Kalugin, who says the KGB is an anti-democratic organization largely untouched by perestroika.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev issued a special order late last month stripping Kalugin of his rank and numerous medals after he charged that the KGB still spies on new parties and participated in an official plot to discredit populist political Boris Yeltsin.

Kryuchkov said that radical statements by Kalugin, who headed the KGB's foreign counter-intelligence division in the 1970s, were a recent phenomenon.

"He climbed the service ladder without saying anything critical about the KGB or the political system," Kryuchkov said. "He (now) portrays himself as a democrat who saw and foresaw everything."

The KGB chief mocked Kalugin's claim to have spoken out against the 1968 Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, saying, "clearly Kalugin talked about this so quietly that no one heard."

Kalugin said in recent interviews that while he was deputy chief of the KGB operation in the United States in the late 1960s he sent superiors information discounting the Soviet official stance that Americans were stirring up trouble in Czechoslovakia, but his reports were not passed along.

Responding to delegates' questions about whether the penalties against Kalugin were too harsh, Kryuchkov said they were mild compared to those exacted in Western states.

Kalugin "knew perfectly well that the forms, methods, and concrete directions of KGB activities are not subject to public disclosure," Kryuchkov said.

Kryuchkov said that Kalugin's "important actions and direct violations of discipline had led to the loss of a valuable source of information" and led to Kalugin's firing as head of counter-intelligence.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev (right) smiles while talking to Russian Communist Party chief Valentin Polozkov during the session of the Soviet Communist Party Congress yesterday. Politburo member Alexander Yakovlev specifically denied criticising Polozkov. (Reuters wirephoto)

Peaceful protests held in Pristina

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia, July 9, (AP): Tens of thousands of ethnic Albanians staged peaceful demonstrations and strikes throughout Kosovo province today to protest the virtual abolition of the troubled region's autonomy.

Eyewitnesses and the Tanjug news agency said the vast majority of employees of Albanian origin in state-run companies left their jobs and peacefully paraded on the streets of Kosovo town.

In the provincial capital of Pristina, some 150 miles (200 kilometres) south of Belgrade, baton-wielding security forces dispersed a group of about 1,000 people.

The "peaceful resistance protest" was organised by Kosovo's ethnic Albanian opposition groups. They are protesting last week's decision by communist authorities in Yugoslavia's largest Republic of Serbia to dissolve local governing bodies in Kosovo.

Kosovo is an administrative part of Serbia. The 1974 constitution abolished the autonomy granted the southern province under the 1974 federal constitution.

Serbian authorities disbanded the local assembly and government after 114 ethnic Albanian Assembly members announced plans to declare Kosovo's full autonomy from Serbia.

Both dismantled bodies were dominated by ethnic Albanians who make up 90 per cent of the province's 1.9 million people.

Today, security forces patrolled the streets of Pristina, occasionally breaking up smaller groups of protesters, witnesses said.

At least 60 ethnic Albanians have died in clashes with security forces since Kosovo's autonomy was limited by constitutional changes enacted by Serbia in March 1989.

Chernobyl victims arrive in Havana

MEXICO CITY, July 9, (AP): Three hundred Soviet children with health problems caused by the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear plant explosion arrived in Havana, Cuba, for medical treatment of illnesses related to the Ukrainian power plant disaster, said Prensa Latina.

The children are the fourth group to arrive in Cuba this month for treatment of illnesses related to the Ukrainian power plant disaster, said Prensa Latina.

A dispatch monitored in Mexico City said Cuban President Fidel Castro welcomed a group of 255, who arrived on July 2. It said about 1,000 children from the Chernobyl area are being treated in a specially designed medical centre.

"We have all the conditions to do it and we are doing it very gladly," Castro told reporters, according to the news agency.

The medical centre, called Pioneer City, is located east of Havana on the oceanfront. The complex includes 500 houses, two hospitals, 15 dining halls, amusement parks, video and film screening theatres, the agency said.

Former Prague official jailed

'Serves him right'

PRAGUE, July 9, (AP): A former communist official was sentenced today to four years in prison for abuse of power, the first member of the old leadership convicted since the country's revolution last year.

Miroslav Stepan, the former chief of Prague's Communist Party, was convicted and sentenced by a district court on charges of abuse of power by a public official and instructing others to abuse of power.

Under Czechoslovak law, conviction and sentencing are simultaneous. Under the Czechoslovak criminal code, Stepan faced a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

He immediately appealed the verdict, but is to remain in custody.

"That serves him right; that's exactly what he deserved," an elderly woman said after the verdict was announced to the public.

The appeal will be dealt with by the Prague Municipal Court at an unspecified date. Czechoslovak law does not stipulate any deadline for holding an appeal trial.

Judge Marie Markova said Stepan was guilty of ordering Gen Bohumil Carda, the former Prague police chief, "to use water cannon and tear gas against demonstrators" on Wenceslas Square on Oct 28, 1988.

Stepan, 44, was the first communist to be put on trial and sentenced in Czechoslovakia after last year's peaceful revolution toppled communist rule.

He also was charged with



Miroslav Stepan

ordering the transport of 195 demonstrators some 50 kilometres (30 miles) outside Prague on Jan 15-17, 1989, for failing to obey police instructions to disperse during a banned rally.

The trial began June 25 behind closed doors, but was opened to the public four days later after strong complaints in the Czechoslovak media.

In his final statement Wednesday night, Stepan pleaded not guilty and contended his trial was political.

He called on Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel to "make this political trial the first and the last," the Mlada Fronta daily newspaper reported Thursday.

Poles, Romanians flocking to Berlin for scraps from the rich Germans' table

WEST BERLIN, July 9, (Reuters): Like beggars at a banquet, the destitute of Eastern Europe are flocking to Berlin in a quest for scraps from the rich Germans' table.

Since soon after the Berlin Wall opened last November, each day has brought an influx of Poles and Romanians, many of whom trade on the black market, work illegally or beg.

The poorest, gypsies from Romania, sleep in train stations and send their children to beg on the city's pavements.

Amid euphoria over the economic and monetary unification of Germany, a new, highly visible underclass has

become a focus for racism and xenophobia, especially among young Germans.

West Berlin's glittering shops, flashy cars and elegant sidewalk cafes are a magnet for beggars and thieves.

"It is a consequence of the great East-West economic gap. Berlin is an island of affluence in a sea of poverty," said Werner Thronicker, spokesman for West Berlin's interior department.

"Beggings is a big problem. Petty crime such as theft from cars, abducting and pickpocketing has soared since the Wall fell," he told Reuters.

The migrants use a legal loophole

created by Berlin's special four-power status. A 1967 order by the three Western allies, issued at the request of West Berlin's governing senate, allowed East Europeans to enter the city without a visa for up to 30 days.

"Until the Wall fell that made sense. Now it is a problem," Thronicker said.

Since border controls ended in the city at the beginning of this month, there has been no way of controlling the influx into West Berlin.

"We have no idea how many Poles and Romanians are in the city," Thronicker said.

"We know that 20,000 Poles are

legally registered as living here and more than 5,000 Romanians have applied for political asylum. But many more have come here as tourists and work illegally or beg."

East Germany, which abolished the last border controls with the West on July 1, has tried to stem the flood of Poles and Romanians by insisting they show invitations to enter the country.

West Berlin officials say the measure will at best slow but not solve the problem. Things could get worse if the Soviet Union eases travel curbs on its citizens, Thronicker said.

The East Germans have even housed

some Romanian migrants temporarily in an army barracks to get them off the streets.

On Unter Den Linden, the majestic tree-lined avenue that runs from the Brandenburg Gate through East Berlin, Romanian children armed with hand-written signs in pidgin German prey on tourists and residents alike.

"Don't me una marca (give me a mark)," young boys drone, their sad eyes fixing beer-drinkers on the cafe terrace outside the neo-classical opera house.

One waif who looked not more than 10 years old seemed unaware that East

Germany had abolished its currency on July 1 and adopted the West German mark.

He was still gratefully accepting worthless East German coins two days later.

In West Berlin, Romanian beggars have taken up residence around Bahnhof Zoo, the central railway station. Women in colourful headscarves, some nursing babies, hold out a leathery hand in a timeless gesture of supplication.

West Berlin police can do little to stop begging, which has not been an offence in West Germany since 1974.

31 killed in Soviet bus-train crash

MOSCOW, July 9, (Reuters): Thirty-one people were killed and others injured in the Soviet Union when a bus was hit by a train at a level crossing, Tass News Agency reported today.

The accident, which occurred last evening near the city of Petrozavodsk in the region of Karelia near the Finnish border, was blamed by a local official on drivers rushing home to watch the World Cup soccer final.

Twenty-one of the 60 bus passengers were killed on the spot and 10 others died later, Tass said. The agency did not give the number of injured, but said none of the train passengers had been hurt.

KD 10,000 maintenance loan for home owners

Priority to those who need it

KUWAITI citizens who have lived in their own home for more than ten years will be entitled to a loan of KD10,000, the chairman of the Credit and Savings Bank Yusuf Al Houti was quoted as saying.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the proceeds of these

loans will be allocated for maintenance and renovation which might be required for the homes of such a category of citizens.

He added that the relevant study took a long time to reach an appropriate formula which may enable the citizen to benefit from the proposed

loans.

He added that such a step is to be taken in accordance with HH the Amir's and HH the Crown Prince and Premier's directives who showed great concern for the provision of appropriate residences for citizens.

He added that the bank will study

each case separately after the completion of a field report which has been prepared in this connection. He also said that the bank in this respect will co-operate with the National Housing Authority (NHA). Priority for loans will be given to owners whose houses are in dire need of maintenance.



Local tomatoes... expensive



Scores of watermelons at varied prices.



Eggs in demand despite the heat.



Fluctuating prices for vegetables.

Business brisk at fruit & vegetables market

Prices fluctuate

DESPITE the large exodus of citizens and expatriates from Kuwait during the summer holidays and its consequent effect on almost all commercial sectors in the country, the vegetables and fruits market witnessed a large turnover in business.

Consumers during Eid Al Adha saw the opportunity of the paucity of shoppers and the consequent drop in prices to make bulk purchases of their various requirements. The market saw a veritable deluge of customers during the fourth and fifth days

of Eid. Salesmen attributed the brisk sales to a section of people in Kuwait inviting their relatives living outside Kuwait to visit during Eid.

Saudi water-melon was sold at 0.150 fils during the festive days, as compared to 0.200 fils. Jordanian quality was sold at 0.100 fils, while Iranian melons retained their value.

However, just prior to Eid prices registered an all-time high. Tomatoes sold at KD2.500 a box compared to KD1.000 for a box.

Hassan Abbas, a fruit and vegetable merchant, said that the market was very crowded with consumers before Eid holidays and that is the main reason prices witnessed a hike during that period.

He added that Egyptian water-melon was expensive due to the fact that it was air-freighted. Iranian melon, on the other hand, comes to Kuwait by sea which is cheaper. Jordanian melon which is imported into Kuwait by land is the cheapest in the market.

Haj Faraj indicated that tomatoes were more expensive before Eid due to the large demand by consumers. He said that this also applied to most items sold at the vegetables and fruits market.

Meanwhile, consumers said that local products are fresher than imported varieties of fruits and vegetables and enjoy moderate prices. They accused merchants of exploitation during official holidays and Eid.

Ihsam Bayati said that prices

were very high before Eid and that she had to postpone all shopping until after the holidays. She called on the Consumer Protection Department to apply better control on merchants at the market.

Controller of Foods at Kuwait Municipality Ahmad Al Ameri said that municipality personnel constantly monitor market items according to laws. The biggest concern is to preserve the validity of foods and to insure they are valid for consumption, Ameri said.

Dentists suffer shortage of materials, says Qa'ood

International conference planned

By Fawzi Al Tameemi

GENERAL SECRETARY of Kuwait Dental Society, Dr Omar Al Qa'ood has said that the society holds training courses in various dental and oral branches and specialties. He added that these courses aim at upgrading the scientific and professional level of Kuwaiti dentists.

Interviewed by Al Seyassah, Qa'ood pointed out that the society will organise an international conference in March, 1991. He said that a group of consultants and specialists from various countries will participate in the conference to discuss innovations in the dental field. He indicated that the conference will include lectures and symposiums.

Regarding problems facing dentists in Kuwait, he said that lack of understanding of the work nature of dentists by administrators and patients was the main problem. He stated that dentists in Kuwait suffer a shortage in materials used in treatment leading to delay on many occasions. In addition, he added that some clinics lack x-ray machines.

He indicated that the nature of work requires indication of the number of patients for each dentist

adding that patients with dental problems require more time and care. He pointed out that dental clinics in Kuwait are highly crowded with patients. He commented the number of patients per dentist is very high compared with world levels.

He explained that Kuwait Dental Society has many activities which include various social programmes like symposiums, parties, language courses and computers training. He added that the society also provides all forms of entertainment facilities to fulfil members' requirements.

He pointed out that the ministry of health faces shortages in specialised doctors. He said that the ministry has lost many highly qualified doctors who left to join private sector.

He called upon officials to speed up measures to establish a dental college in Kuwait in order to face up to the shortage in the number of dentists.

Meanwhile, head of Oral and Dental Department at the Faculty of Health Science Dr Fuad Hassan was quoted as saying that the department is the first of its kind in Kuwait.

In an interview with a local

daily, the official said that the establishment of this department was aimed among other things at preparing technically qualified cadres with appropriate skills in joint dental field.

He added that the department is one of the dental branch specialisations for gum and tissues disease. The department has been designed to meet the Ministry of Health's requirements for specialised technical staff in the field of allied technical services for oral and dental diseases. He pointed out that the study period in the department is two years in addition to field training. Applicants should have a secondary certificate in the science division. He added that a centre for oral and dental disease will be opened in September 1990, and will consist of ten clinics.

The department is striving to upgrade the level of graduates through co-operation with the Nutrition and Health Department at the Ministry of Health in addition to the provision of efficient teaching staff and latest technology.

He disclosed that the department has fostered cultural relations with specialised colleges in Sweden and USA.

Engineers keen to take part in development

KUWAIT Engineers Society's main aim is to determine the work involvement, contributions and occupational ramifications of engineers.

Speaking on the issue, Saud Al Saqr, head of the cultural committee at the society said that such findings are essential to develop a long-term national plan for engineers in the country.

Additionally, the society's activities extend to reviewing building Kuwaiti manpower and development of manpower resources in addition to the role played by the private sector in the development process.

Speaking to a local daily, he said that rapid developments in the core sectors make it imperative that plans are formulated for the future.

The official added that the 18th Engineering Conference held recently in Kuwait emphasised on preparing engineers for the decades of the '90s. The conference also shed light on the unemployment problem in the country and the "bottlenecks" experienced in finding employment for engineers.

Saqr stressed that engineers in Kuwait have proved their capabilities and willingness to actively participate in various activities of the society and added that the cultural committee is currently preparing a comprehensive study on the various aspects of engineers in the country.

The cultural committee held its first meeting for the current season.

Frozen meat Importers told to ensure halal rites

AN official source at Kuwait Municipality has renewed a call on frozen meat importers to abide by the provisions of the decision issued by the municipality director-general in 1985 on the storage and selling of foods, meat and poultry.

The official said that under the provision all frozen meat and poultry must comply with technical and health conditions and specifications stipulated by the municipality in agreement with the Ministries of Commerce and Industry and Public Health (Articles I & II).

He added that the decision banned the selling of frozen meat, poultry or possession of canned meat for selling purposes, if the animals were not slaughtered in compliance with Islamic regulations on animal slaughter, which will be considered unfit for human consumption.

All meat and poultry product importers must fully comply with the provisions of this decision and submit a certificate from the country of origin as evidence that the animals involved were slaughtered in line with the Islamic law.

Pledge

He pointed out that in case the importer fails to provide this certificate he will be given the choice of either destroying the goods or re-routing it to the supplier, with the obligation of writing a pledge to do that within one month of municipal notification.

The official added that the municipality may extend the deadline to further periods, not exceeding two months, and in the case of failure to abide by municipality instructions, the goods will be confiscated in line with the provisions under Article 10 of the aforementioned decision.

He emphasised the need to abide by announcement No. 13/82 banning the entry of imported foodstuff which is produced more than 9 months before the time of entry, based on the production date shown on the package, particularly products whose validity extends over a year. Products manufactured for use within a specific period and produced more than eight months before the time of entry, are exempted.

Products which must be marketed within one year from the date of production will also be denied access into the country, if half the time of related validity has elapsed or three years whichever is shorter. Exceptions, however, will be made for products with less than two month validity.

Canned or packaged food must carry a label stating in Arabic and other languages all relevant commercial data, including the ingredients, date of production and expiry of validity and other important information, the official said.

Saudi Arabia begins preparations for next haj

ASSISTANT UNDERSECRETARY for Transport Affairs in Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Communications Ahmed Al Turkey was quoted as saying that transporting pilgrims was the most difficult task in the world as it is an incomparable phenomenon which hardly ever occurs in any other place.

In an interview with the daily Al Seyassah, the official clarified that the gathering of millions of pilgrims in a specific place in Makkah to perform pilgrimage rituals at the holy shrines and to enable all pilgrims to perform a ritual simultaneously represent a real challenge which was met by the Saudi Arabian government through the setting up of huge facilities and the construction of roads which are designed in accordance with the latest systems in the world.

Turkey added that roads in Makkah and Madina Al Munawwarah were provided with all the necessary facilities and services in order to alleviate the burdens of pilgrims in addition to securing safe access to the holy shrines.

Meanwhile, the official said that the ministry had followed the latest systems to design the flyovers and tunnels and had provided the necessary maintenance to secure the safety of the pilgrims in addition to the provision of the necessary post guides leading to the entrance of Makkah in order to minimise incidents and to ease the pilgrims transport process.

Replying to a question, the official said that the ministry has already begun preparations for the next pilgrim season and was trying to obviate any negative aspect. He pointed out that the ministry was paying special attention to the evaluation of the transport movement every year in order to avoid obstacles which may impede the movement of pilgrims.

Turkey praised the decision which permits the establishment of car parking lots outside Makkah and the allocation of vehicles affiliated to the Public Transport Company to ferry pilgrims and their

luggage to the shrines.

Speaking on the setting up a new railway project, the official said that the ministry is currently studying the possibility of implementing a railway network in view of the industrial and agricultural development in the country. He added that the feasibility study for such a project had been prepared.

On the other hand, the official confirmed the importance of planning for future development, commenting that without sound planning most objectives will not be attained. He added that the Saudi government has since the adoption of its first development plan paid special attention to the transport sector. He added that this attention had resulted in a huge road network which links all the areas of the kingdom.

The ministry was striving to develop marine and overland transportation, Turkey said. It is also currently involved in a study aimed at developing a new transport system in the inner cities to minimise traffic congestion.

With regard to marine transport, the official said that the ministry strove to enhance the capacity of the Saudi Merchant Fleet by adopting new procedures and conditions for Saudi-flagged ship registration systems. He added that the ministry is studying the possibility of developing navigation services to be extended to ships along the Saudi coasts particularly in the shallow areas of the Arabian Gulf and the Red Sea. He added that the ministry was also striving to prepare qualified Saudi cadres and to expand the marine training process.

He disclosed that the ministry was trying to improve its marine merchant system and revise the current system to keep in line with the relevant international marine agreements which Saudi Arabia has acceded to and to keep abreast with international marine rules in order to provide the necessary safety for the Saudi Merchant Fleet.

Manama-Beijing relations enter new phase: Khalifah

MANAMA, July 9, (Kuna): Bahraini Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifah said last night relations between China and Bahrain have entered a new phase.

The Gulf News Agency (GNA) quoted the Bahraini minister, who is currently visiting Beijing, during a dinner ceremony given by him last night in honour of his Chinese counterpart Quian Qichen.

During the ceremony, Khalifah affirmed that the new phase is aimed at increasing co-ordination and consultation in the means of co-operation for the joint interest of both countries.

The Bahraini official said his visit to China has given him the chance to strengthen the basis of this relationship, pointing to the live example of the co-operation agreement in economy, trade, technology, and air transport that is soon to be signed between both parties.

He added that the Asian developing countries' interest in providing prosperity for their people should take into consideration the current international changes that depend on international co-operation and big regional blocs.

The Chinese foreign minister also praised Bahraini-Chinese relations and expressed his satisfaction with the current bilateral co-operation.

Awqaf ministers conclude conference in Jeddah

JEDDAH, July 9, (Kuna): The executive council of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs ministers in Islamic countries ended its deliberations here last night by asserting the importance of co-ordination among Islamic countries to support Arab and Islamic causes.

The council called on the member states of the general congress to adhere to the recommendations of the fourth session of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ministers Conference held in Jeddah last May particularly those related to enhancing means of Islamic call (dawa) to face threats that endanger the Islamic world.

The conferees agreed to hold the next executive council's session in Indonesia early in 1991, and the fifth meeting of the council in Morocco early 1992.

KU registration begins

The General Registrar at Kuwait University Msaed Al Dakheel has said that the second stage of receipt of applications for the first academic semester for all students began Saturday morning July 7, 1990 at the exhibits hall in Khaldiya.

He added that in order to preserve order, the university administration has reserved Saturday, Monday and Wednesday for girls and Sundays and Tuesdays for boys.

In an interview with a local daily, Dakheel said that the exhibits hall in Khaldiya where students handed over their applications saw large crowds. The registration committee at the hall received a high number of applications.

He added that registration will last until July 18, 1990. With respect to students transferring from

colleges outside Kuwait, he indicated that applicants should complete at least 30 credits at another accredited university or college and should attain a point average of not less than 2.23 from the 4 points scale. He indicated that transfer applications are acceptable from Kuwaitis only.

He also indicated that the summer semester at the university began Saturday. He said that the summer semester will end on Sept 3, 1990.

Meanwhile, Naser Al Enizi, head of the National Students Union at the university said that the first day of registration went off smoothly and did not have any complications. He added that the union will organise an orientation week for the new students at the beginning of the first academic semester.

سازمان آموزش عالی

GCC joint traffic policy planned

Conference in Kuwait, Oct 29-31

KUWAIT, July 9, (Kuna): Chairman of the preparatory committee of the First Gulf Conference Dr Nabeel Jaafar Abdul Rahim has said that the conference aims at passing joint recommendations to draw clear traffic policy.

He told Kuna that the conference scheduled to be held in Kuwait on October 29-31, aims at specifying the basis to

achieve co-ordination and integration among direct and indirect concerned parties with traffic affairs on the local and Gulf levels.

The conference also aims at preparing a comprehensive index and establishing national committees to spread traffic awareness in the GCC states, he indicated.

He added that the conference's goals

falls within the main goals of the Road Safety Society namely to reduce road accidents.

Accidents

Dr Nabeel noted that the conference will discuss traffic accidents and their causes, and the government and the private sectors' role in limiting such accidents.

He indicated that the parties who would take part in the conference are the Road Safety Society, Ministries of Public Health, Interior, Public Works, Information, Education, Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, the Kuwait Public Transportation Company, Kuwait University and Kuwait Municipality.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bona'amah here

KUWAIT, July 9, (Kuna): Mauritanian Minister of Culture and Islamic Orientation Didi Ould Bona'amah arrived here yesterday on a two-day visit to Kuwait.

He was received on arrival by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Mohammed Nasser Al Hamdhan and other officials, in addition to the Mauritanian ambassador to Kuwait.

The Mauritanian minister was in Doha where he conveyed a message from the Mauritanian President Maaouya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya to the Amir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Bin Ahmad Al Thani dealing with bilateral relations and other Arab and international issues.

Justice enforced

1,337 judgments had been enforced during the month of April with 1,033 enforced by the Enforcement Department's

Head Office, 211 by Hawalli Enforcement, 67 in Ahmadi and 16 in Jahra, according to statistics issued recently by the computer department of the Ministry of Justice.

It added that out of the above 888 were executive seizures, 449 preventive seizure, 91 eviction cases, 41 sales and one case had been put under custody.

Meanwhile, statistics said that the travel ban department had issued about 1,216 travel ban orders, cancelled 377 orders and released about 14 people in addition to the granting of travel permits to about 15 people who were being previously considered as suspects.

Iran quake aid

DUBAI, July 9, (Kuna): A ship is currently being prepared to ship for Iran heavy duty equipment including water tankers, bulldozers and cranes as a batch of relief assistance to that earthquake-stricken country.

The batch was ordered by UAE Deputy Premier and Crown Prince of Dubai Sheikh Maktoum Bin Rashid.

Carter in UAE

ABU DHABI, July 9, (Kuna): Former US president Jimmy Carter arrived here after midnight on a one-day private visit.

Carter was received at the airport by UAE Minister of State for the Supreme High Council Affairs Saad Ghubash and other Foreign Ministry officials.

National Council

(Continued from Page 1)

Lebanon would boost its national unity to restore security and stability.

The Amir hailed the recent rapprochement between Iraq and Iran.

"We are optimistic regarding the new stage of relations between Iraq and Iran envisaging establishment of lasting peace between them and to strengthen ties of fraternity and co-operation which will be reflected on all the Arab and Islamic worlds," the Amir said.

The Amir wished further success for the Gulf Co-operation Council, the Arab Co-operation Council and the Arab Maghreb Union.

In his capacity as chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the Amir said Kuwait would spare no effort in settling disputes among Muslims and maintain the rights of Muslim minorities by love and good intentions.

He extended condolences to the relatives of Iran's devastating earthquakes and those who died in a tunnel in Holy Makkah during the haj (pilgrimage), saying the sad events had nevertheless shown the spirit of Islamic and international solidarity.

The Amir raised fears that the Third World would be the loser with regard to the recent East-West rapprochement.

"As the world welcomes the East-West agreement to end cold war and foster economic co-operation between them, we fear that the Third World would be the great loser in this agreement. Regrettably, the assistance they used to get, have begun to take new routes which does not go beyond the circles of the developed north," the Amir explained.

He added crises and conflicts

began to increase in the south to enable arms dealers to market their deadly goods at the expense of development.

He said the present world situation represents progress and peace in the north and backwardness and wars in the south.

"We are living in a schizophrenic world. We hope that humanity would usher into an undivided world of fraternity and free from the context that regards the north as capable and elite and the south as crippled," the Amir added.

"Our peoples have no option other than the long and serious road. Progress is not a gift or a grant. It is a precious fruit which people attain with scientific effort and technology," the Amir concluded.

Following the Amiri address, the eldest member, who took over chairmanship of the council in its inaugural session, Abdul Aziz Al Misaeed welcomed His Highness the Amir's inauguration of the first term of the National Council.

Misaeed, describing the event as an historical moment in Kuwait's history, said that the Kuwaiti people were looking forward with confidence and hope to a bright future under the banner of democracy "which we all believe in."

He underlined that the council session crystallised the Kuwaiti people's keenness on national unity, popular participation and genuine, traditional values.

Misaeed pledged, on behalf of his colleagues, to shoulder the responsibility and to protect national march against all dangers and challenges, proceeding to a better future of more welfare, security and stability and boosting what the constitution stipulated of rights, duties,

equality and social justice.

He affirmed the members' intention to endorse role of popular participation and lay down basis of parliamentary life in a manner ensuring that past negative practices would be avoided.

Misaeed further pledged frank co-operation with the government to accomplish the missions and duties of the council including studying, debating and proposing draft laws, monitoring government institutions and discussing ministers in various affairs of the state within their jurisdictions putting Kuwait's higher interest above any other consideration.

During the opening meeting, deputies who took the oath of defending Kuwait and fulfill their duties, elected nine members to the Internal Charter Committee which has been given a deadline of two weeks to finalise its recommendations. These members are: Dr. Mohamed Al Hadad, Tukhaim Al Tukhaim, Abdulaziz Al Aswousi, Kathem Bou Abbas, Khalal Al Enzi, Mohammed Abdul Jaleel, Abdullahi Al Bahar, Adel Al Baer, Ibrahim Bourisli.

Another seven deputies won recommendations as members of the Appeal Committee. These members are: Saqr Al Soudan, Adel Al Bader, Abdelaziz Al Aswousi, Kathem Bou Abbas, Jassem Qahzard, Bader Al Bishir, Jawad Al Matrouk.

Attendants at the opening ceremony included former ministers, ex-parliament members, diplomatic representatives to Kuwait as well as foreign journalists.

The meeting was adjourned to the coming Monday to discuss the Internal Charter and to form other committees as recommended.

300 new nurses contracted for MOH

THE director of Nursing Services Department at the Health Ministry, Mariam Al Ragam has revealed that the ministry has contracted with 300 female nurses from Philippines, Korea, Colombia and China to work in Kuwait's hospitals. She expected these new nurses meet the increasing shortage.

She added that all of these nurses carry high degrees in nursing and will join work before the end of the year. A big number of these nurses will work at Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital while others will be distributed over the specialised hospitals. She added that increasing resignations of nurses are considered the most serious problem for nursing services in Kuwait.

NC members urged to execute responsibility

KUWAIT, July 9, (Kuna): Two local dailies today urged deputies to the National Council to live up to the responsibilities bestowed upon them by those who elected them.

In front-page editorials welcoming the inaugural session of the interim 75-member council, the newspapers said the council is the first step toward restoring parliamentary life.

"The National Council elections were a constitutional announcement for the resumption of parliamentary experience according to the political vision expressed by the masses," said one daily.

It added that all the Kuwaiti people are looking forward with great hopes to the National Council which began its serious march today.

The paper called on the deputies to dedicate all their efforts in the interest of the people and the country's high interest.

"With the inauguration of the National Council we actually enter the second and important stage of our march to boost parliamentary life and realise quantum transfer throughout the 1990s," said another daily.

The paper indicated that all the Arabs are watching with great concern the Kuwaiti experience, urging the deputies to accept the challenge and lay down the basic principles for political participation.

Work permits

DURING the month of May 1990, 4,996 work permits were issued according to a statement issued recently by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour. These permits were issued by the four labour departments distributed in the country.

Apart from the above, the ministry said that about 10,212 work permits had been issued by these departments, for the first time during the same period while 3,659 work permits had been cancelled, the statement said.

Gulf states must industrialise: Jaafari

Goic reviewing plans

THE chairman of the Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultations (GOIC) Dr Abdurrahman Al Jaafari has said that industrialisation will be the prominent characteristic of the Arab Gulf economies during the 1990s era. He said the member states intended to grant a bigger role to the private sector in the industrial development process.

In an interview with a local daily, the official described his organisation as a consulting bureau of the Arab Gulf states which aims at supporting the industrial sector in the member states in order to keep abreast with the advancement in science and technology prevalent in advanced countries in addition to achieving integration in the industrial field among these states through the submission of consulting services and comprehensive studies for current and prospective projects.

He added that the organisation in order to achieve its purposes had set up a unique information centre which contains important basic information

which might be required by industrialists and relevant decision makers in the region.

Apart from the above the official said that his organisation was in touch with foreign international industrial companies and scientific institutions to obtain the latest technology. He added that the organisation had received several studies from member states dealing with certain industries and that the organisation is currently reviewing these studies to set up relevant plans.

He added that the organisation's schemes should be endorsed by member states and implemented through an annual programme.

The organisation has been established to serve member states and would not hesitate to submit services to the other Arab countries.

Jaafari said, speaking of industrial diversification during the 1990s, the official commented that these states have no alternative but to go ahead and diversify.

He clarified that the Arab Gulf countries could not depend for ever on oil as a sole source for national income particularly in the light of volatile oil prices in the international market.

He further elucidated that industrialisation is an imperative need to diversify economic base and eventually to readjust national income resources. He added that Arab Gulf states enjoyed an important privilege represented by the existence of oil which constitutes an important foundation upon which industry can be built. Jaafari said that the Arab Gulf states had started an industrial movement in Kuwait where some developed industries have been established.

He added that the industrial problems in the Gulf region were mostly represented by a lack of qualified administrators to realise industrial development.

He cited the Japanese example, saying that this country lacks all raw materials but through determination, sound planning and administration it realised its industrial renaissance.

MEW workshop

Use of optimum capacity sought

THE director of central workshops department at Kuwait's Ministry of Electricity and Water Ahmed Al Mershed has said that the ministry was striving to benefit from the optimum commissioning capacity of the department.

To achieve this goal, the ministry has empowered some officials at its different departments to set up the best methods for utilising the workshop, the official told a local daily.

He added that the workshop has been completed and had been provided with the necessary equipment and technical cadres, but the ministry had discovered that optimum commissioning capacity of the workshop has not as yet been realised.

Meanwhile, the official said that the Ministry of Electricity and Water was paying a special attention to the training process and accordingly a training centre has been set up by the ministry which was recently annexed to the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paet). He pointed out that the centre had been designed to provide training opportunities for ministry technicians particularly those working in power stations and water distilling stations.

On the other hand, the official disclosed that in 1981, the ministry formed a permanent committee to discuss and follow up training requirements in addition to qualifying technical cadres after training by the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training's institutes.

He complained that the ministry lacks an efficient team to undertake the implementation of the committee's recommendations. He clarified that most committee members were already burdened with other responsibilities pointing that the committee has suspended its meetings until the formation of the appropriate apparatus who will carry out its recommendations carefully.

He said a new apparatus for qualifying technical staff at the central workshop department has been formed, adding that the relevant schemes of the apparatus will be set up soon and will be linked in the future with the undersecretary's office.

Meanwhile, the official said that his department is striving to take in specialised conferences, seminars and training courses.

Mazroui opens youth camp

ASSISTANT undersecretary for youths affairs at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Abdul Rahman Al Mazroui opened the 41st youth labour camp on Saturday at the camp grounds in Jahra.

In an interview with a local daily, Mazroui said that youth camps play an important role as an educational facility aimed at renewing energies of youth fulfilling their needs.

He stressed the ministry's keenness and concern towards these activities adding that the first youth camp was organised by the ministry in 1969. Activities at the camp will include excavation work, afforestation of model forests, protection projects, gaining knowledge of desert and marine environment.

Mazroui urged parents who complained that their children do not use their leisure times in beneficial activities to encourage their children to participate in these camps.

Policeman shot by accident

By Nawaf Al Hamil
A POLICEMAN in Shuaiba area was accidentally shot by his colleague, and was rushed to hospital for treatment.
The victim, 20, a member of the Installations Security Department is currently in the intensive care unit for treatment from the wound he received in his head after the bullet penetrated his skull.

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Saudis aim to preserve wildlife

Protected areas being set up

RIYADH, July 9, (AP): Saudi Arabia, which sits on 25 per cent of the world's proven oil reserves, is now protecting another natural resource — its diminishing wildlife population.

The oil boom and the rapid urban development that followed, catapulted the kingdom into the 20th century.

But the push to modernise trampled over ecological concerns and Saudi Arabia's vast expanses of desert are now virtually empty of game. "Man has gone astray and indulged in unjustified systematic exploration and depletion of natural resources," said Prince Saud Al Faisal, the Foreign Minister and managing director of the National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development.

Saud and others in the theocratic kingdom have looked to the Quran, Islam's holy book, for the conservation mandate.

"For there is not an animal on Earth nor a creature flying on two wings, but they are peoples, like unto you," it says. "Do no mischief on the Earth, after it hath been set in order."

Prince Saud, a driving force behind the commission formed four years ago, was speaking at the recent release of 19 Arabian Oryx, a species of large white-coated, hi-horned antelope, in Mahazat As-Sayed, a 2,200 square-kilometre (849 square-mile) protected area near the western mountain city of Taif.

The Saudi conservationists are also breeding rare animals in captivity, setting up new protected areas, restoring natural habitat, and conducting an extensive public education campaign.

Saudi Arabia does not usually spring to mind as a country known for its wildlife. But, as well as the Oryx, it is also home to the Sand Cat.

Concern

The Ibex or Mountain Goat, still roams the northern Hejaz Mountains and the Dorcas Gazelle and Sand Gazelle can be found in remote southern areas.

Ironically, Saudi Arabia's initial concern for conservation came from hunters who noticed an alarming decrease in game.

"Two of the protected areas in the north were suggested by eminent falconers from the royal family," said Abdulaziz Abuzinada, the commission's secretary-general.

Even the commission's eight governors are avid hunters. Hunting, especially with falcons, has been part of Saudi culture for generations. But the introduction of firearms and four-wheel drive vehicles has tipped the ecological balance.

Gazelles, for example, were once so plentiful in the eastern province that hunters could fill pickups with game in a single afternoon.

The animals, now scarce, are being successfully bred at King Khaled wildlife research centre near Riyadh. By the end of this year, more than 50 will have been released into two protected areas.

The centre is also preparing to release 10 captive bred red-necked ostriches.

"The Arabian Ostrich doesn't exist anymore," said Abuzinada. "But we found that the African red-necked species closely resembled them."

The Oryx, which virtually disappeared from Saudi Arabia in the 1960s, is also being bred in captivity at the National Wildlife Research Centre near Taif.

"This year, we will re-introduce into the wild six Oryx captive-bred in Saudi Arabia," Abuzinada said.

The 40 million-ryyal (\$10.6 million) centre was established in 1986 to breed Houbara bustards, a Turkey-like bird favoured by falconers as prey.

"The bird is facing extinction from over-hunting and deterioration of habitat," Abuzinada commented.

The commission is tracking captive-bred and wild Houbaras by satellite and radio to unravel the mysteries of their mating and migratory habits.

But breeding isn't the most important aspect of the Saudi conservation strategy. Abuzinada said protecting the environment is the top priority.

Remedy

Since there is no private ownership of rangelands, shepherds graze their livestock wherever food is most abundant. There is little incentive for conservative land management.

Food supplements for livestock has also resulted in a larger animal population with less range to support them.

The commission plans to remedy that situation by setting up 120 protected areas. Seven have already been established.

The kingdom is using an analytical approach that has not been applied anywhere else, said Graham Child, a Zimbabwean consultant with the commission.

"We're trying to analyse the country's biological and physical characteristics so that the protected areas will represent all of the country's natural elements," he said.

Abuzinada estimates this ambitious plan will take 15-20 years to implement.

Enforcing a system of protected areas will not be easy. Bedouins, accustomed to grazing their livestock where they please, will need appeasing.

"We're trying to choose areas where there's not so much potential for conflict," said John Grainger, a British consultant.

"It's very important to have hunting laws" to keep hunters in check, Abuzinada noted.

Legislation currently on the books is too vague and sporadically enforced.

The Council of Ministers is currently studying legislation mandating protected areas recommended by the commission.

Four of the commission's governors — Prince Sultan, the defence minister; Prince Nayef, the interior minister; Prince Saud, and Agriculture and Water Minister Abdul-Rahman Al Sheikh — sit on the council.

"The presence of so many ministers on the commission makes it much stronger than a ministry of environment would be," Child noted.

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

HAPPINESS is beneficial for the body, but it is grief that develops the powers of the mind. — Marcel Proust, author.

OPINION

Social peace has returned

WHO said that a new page of co-operation between legislative and executive authorities will be opened through the National Council (NC) to pave the way to a future parliamentary life ...

Who said that the central theme in the National Council is for it to be the "nucleus" that will address the experiments of parliamentary life ...

Who envisaged that the Council will attract people and achieve fruitful integration among its members as well as co-operation with the government to achieve public interests and stability in Kuwait ...

Who commented that the aim of dialogue is not to gain a victory of an ideology over another ideology?

Who commented that caring for the present and planning for the future is not an optional work, but a duty ...

Who stressed that parliamentary responsibility dictates keeping aside personal disputes — even if they appear as disputes in the interests of the public ...

These historical stands were announced by none other than HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed.

These pragmatic and commendable stands have laid the basis for the first social reformation that corrected classification of society without losing a drop of blood and without sending anyone to jail or without any suspension of freedom.

Jaber Al Ahmed undertook a successful revolution in Kuwaiti society by using a Kuwaiti national instrument according to Kuwait's national faith — Islam.

He did not import or borrow a faith as he is firmly convinced that Kuwaiti society inherits a concealed power that does not accept retreat.

We, the people of Kuwait have had and continue to accrue quantitative and qualitative jumps in all fields of life — which is actually a "Herculean revolution." Many other people tried to achieve a semblance, but they had rivers of blood spilt.

By this achievement of Jaber Al Ahmed, social peace has returned to our people which will propel them to begin their national life in earnest and achieve optimum development and giving them the much needed competitive edge with advanced societies.

Kuwaitis, yesterday, were happy listening to their Amir who declared the start of the new era. They obtained their full citizenship and the age of a united Kuwaiti society was ushered in. Onwards, the Kuwaiti people are no longer a limited category of people that monopolise interests. There is no one in Kuwait — except its people. There is no Kuwaiti who can push other Kuwaitis to fight for him by claiming that fighting for him is also fighting for the interests of Kuwait.

Today, belongs to Jaber Al Ahmed and his people and the future is for Kuwait and its coming generations. The historical leadership is one which believed in Allah's laws. The opportunities that are now accruing are a grant from Allah for our patience and for the peaceful way they were achieved by Jaber Al Ahmed.

Jaber Al Ahmed, opened the new Kuwaiti era, with an original white revolution.

Therefore, Kuwaitis, cheer today and feel more optimistic. It is their turn now to participate in building their country.

Jaber Al Ahmed had opened his arms to receive and welcome his people. The happiness of justice is now reflected on all faces.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Bush gives allies choice

HOUSTON, (Reuters): President George Bush, nicknamed "have half" as a boy because he wanted to please others, is setting a friendly tone for this week's economic summit by telling allied leaders it's okay to adopt policies that conflict with US thinking.

In two days of preliminary talks before Monday's formal summit, Bush has scored points with Japan by bowing to its desire to resume lending to China and pleased Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney by pledging an agreement to combat acid rain.

Bush and his senior foreign policy aides have also made clear that Washington will not stand in the way of Western allies that want to support Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's economic reforms with direct financial assistance.

But there has been no sign of a softening of a US demand for an end to European Economic Community agricultural subsidies, one of the major topics at the summit of the world's seven largest industrial democracies.

Asked his feelings about Japan's wish to resume economic ties with Beijing that were suspended after the June 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, Bush said Tokyo must act in its own best interest.

He called Japan a sovereign nation that can make up its own mind about a lot of questions. He told reporters on Saturday that Tokyo and Washington work co-operatively on many issues, but added: "Sometimes they have interests that prevail."

TODAY IN HISTORY

1559 — Mary Queen of Scots assumes title of Queen of England.

1584 — Francis Throgmorton, under arrest for plotting a Spanish invasion of England, is executed for treason; William of Orange is assassinated by Balthazar Gerard at instigation of Spain.

1609 — Catholic League of German Princes is formed at Munich under Maximilian, Duke of Bavaria, in opposition to Protestant Union.

1645 — Oliver Cromwell's army defeats British royalists at Langport.

1810 — British forces take Ile de Bourbon and Mauritius in Indian Ocean.

1897 — French forces occupy Fashoda in the Sudan.

1911 — Russia warns Germany of her support for France in Moroccan crisis.

1943 — Allied forces land in Sicily in World War II.

1953 — Soviet minister of internal affairs L.P. Beria is dismissed.

1964 — Moise Tshombe succeeds C. Adoula as premier in the Congo.

1973 — The Bahamas becomes an independent nation, emerging from two centuries of British rule.

1976 — Four mercenaries — three of them British subjects and one an American — are executed by firing squad in Angola.

1987 — Presidents Francois Mitterrand of France and Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, in Geneva, stress need of international co-operation to stimulate world economic growth.

1989 — Rocket barrage kills 20 people in Kabul.

KGB image hard to improve

Legacy of terror lingers

MOSCOW, (AP): The general entrusted with improving the KGB's image acknowledges it will be hard to erase the terror implanted in the national consciousness by decades of official lawlessness.

"Violations of the law are a thing of the past, but the syndrome of fear unfortunately remains," Maj. Gen. Alexander N. Karbainov said in an interview. "The KGB ... still has the image of a terrible force," said Karbainov, head of the new KGB centre for public relations.

His job is to change people's attitude toward the secret police agency that killed millions for Josef Stalin in the 1930s and 1940s, banded dissidents until the mid-1980s and vied with foreign spies in the cold war.

The interview took place in Karbainov's office on the third floor of Lubyanka, the KGB headquarters. It is next to a corner office occupied by agency chiefs from the founder, Felix Dzerzhinsky, to Yuri Andropov, who became the Soviet leader in 1982.

"We are meeting with you in the building of the KGB in order that you should feel that there are no super-steel bars on the windows, no terrible cells," the 44-year-old General said.

Access to the building was limited. Lubyanka's basement cells, described in Soviet prison literature, were not on the tour.

Karbainov spoke off espionage struggles with the CIA and denied a former KGB general's allegation that his agency spied on leaders of Soviet strike committees and people trying to form new parties.

He expressed opposition to proposals that the KGB's domestic and foreign operations be separated along the lines of the system in the United States, where the CIA operates abroad and the FBI acts domestically.

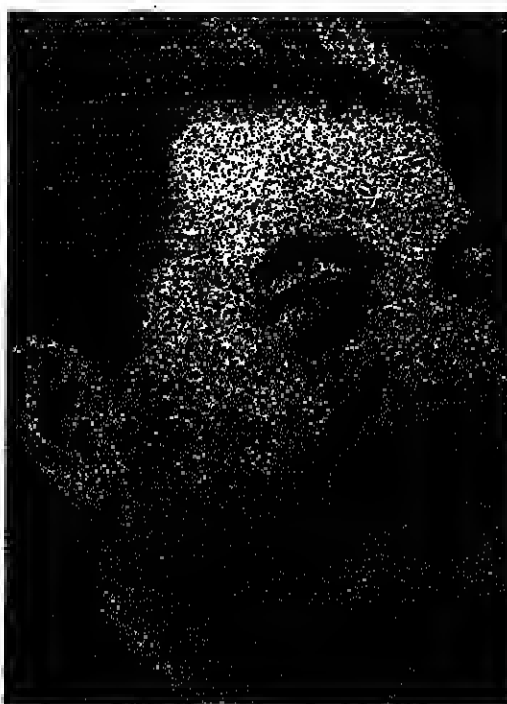
The KGB, which has never disclosed its budget or number of employees, controls the domestic secret police, intelligence operations abroad, the units that guard Kremlin leaders, the border patrol and several infantry divisions.

It has branches in other institutions, including the armed forces, and Western reports say it also supervises nuclear weapons.

Police and KGB guards, not told that an AP reporter and photographer would visit, first refused to let them wait in the lobby or on the sidewalk outside, then scrutinised their documents when an escort arrived.

Inside the yellow, grey and pink 19th century building were long, empty corridors and several courtyards. Bars covered some windows.

Lubyanka has been opened to a few Western



Stalin ... used KGB.

reporters, and Karbainov said news conferences would be held there soon.

Officers of the committee for state security, initials KGB, revere Andropov and are restoring his suite — a small bedroom, a study and an office with a switchboard from which he could call KGB stations from San Francisco to Siberia. The new director has moved his office to a new building next door.

"Karbainov said his job was to publicize the positive side of security work, including the arrests in the last seven years of 31 Soviets accused of spying for foreign powers, usually the United States.

As part of the campaign, the agency has issued a trial edition of a planned monthly KGB Companion. The first issue carried a new version of the arrest of A. G. Tolkachev, a Soviet engineer accused of spying for the CIA.

Western intelligence sources have said they thought Tolkachev was compromised by US defector Edward Lee Howard, a CIA agent who was trained to work in Moscow but was fired and fled to the Soviet Union.

According to the KGB Companion, Tolkachev was turned in by co-worker Anna Vladimirovna, who spotted him burning packets of money. Karbainov said the KGB version was accurate.

"I can just tell you one figure ... the sum of money deposited into his account by the CIA: \$2 million ... this information is documented," Karbainov said, adding that the money went into a foreign bank.

Western agents have increased their activities against the Soviet Union in recent years, he said, and declared.

"American intelligence works well. I think that the closing stage of the cold war was accompanied by certain activation of foreign intelligence agencies ... in the Soviet Union and around the world."

He agreed with a CIA official quoted in the KGB newspaper as saying in 1984: "Not long ago, we had practically no agents in the socialist bloc, but now we have so many that we can barely run them. And each year, the number of agents grows."

Karbainov's office has conducted a press campaign against Oleg D. Kalugin, a former KGB general who has urged that the agency be divided into domestic and foreign services to reduce its power.

In response to Kalugin and other reformers, Karbainov argued that intelligence and counterintelligence operations supplement each other and must remain within the same organisation.

"Any separation of the functions, at least in the initial stages, reduces the viability of each part, the effectiveness of each part," he said. "It's like a human being. You can cut off his arms and legs. He is still a man, but he cannot move."

"In the United States, a different system developed from the very beginning. ... we can't say that everything should be alike."

Kalugin accused the KGB of spying on the Russian orthodox church, leaders of strike committees and new political organisations that hope to compete with the Communist Party.

"It is a lie. A pure lie," Karbainov said. "In the 1930s, KGB organs had influence over all bodies, over government and party bodies. Practically, they were all instruments for strengthening the personal power of Stalin."

"Now, it is absolutely not the case. The organs of the KGB do not concern themselves with any social organisations."

Several days after the interview, at the behest of the KGB, President Mikhail S. Gorbachev stripped Kalugin of his rank and decorations, the government news agency Tass reported.

Kosovo strife comes to head

BELGRADE, (Reuters): The Yugoslav federation of eight republics and provinces has never looked more fragile than when Serbia, the biggest republic, cracked down on its province of Kosovo last week and Slovenia declared full state sovereignty.

"Everyone has done what they have been threatening to do for years," the federal daily newspaper Borba said on Sunday. "We are at the beginning of an unconstitutional, semi-chaotic and semi-anarchic situation."

Serbia dissolved the Parliament and government of Kosovo, which has a predominantly ethnic Albanian population, and purged its Albanian-language media after a declaration by the province's Parliament on Monday.

Proclaiming

Kosovo's deputies declared the province was politically independent of Serbia, a move tantamount to proclaiming it a republic within Yugoslavia.

The Nova Makedonija newspaper said Serbia's response was "another in a series of dangerous and extreme moves in Yugoslavia which follow one another with such intensity that no sane person can any longer forecast how it will all end."

Serbia and its southern province had long been in conflict. Ethnic Albanians want their own republic within Yugoslavia while Serbia wants to bring Kosovo under direct rule from Belgrade.

Political analysts warned of possible further riots against Serbian rule. At least 50 people, mostly ethnic Albanians, have been killed in political violence in Kosovo in the past 18 months.

If the Albanians lose access to the media and to political institutions, they may feel that demonstrations are the only means of expression left open to them," one analyst said.

He said the media clampdown could be particularly dangerous as a lack of real information might create rumours of mass arrests and police persecution in Kosovo.

Strike

Ethnic Albanian leaders called on their people to stage a protest strike throughout the province. Serbia immediately said it would sack any workers taking part in the strike.

The dispute posed a new challenge to Yugoslavia's embattled federal leaders, especially Prime Minister Ante Markovic who is pushing through sweeping market-oriented economic reforms.

The Yugoslav state presidency has not yet responded to events in Kosovo, but it issued a stern warning to Slovenia's Parliament to annul its



NOT SINCE MARTIN LUTHER KING AND ROBERT KENNEDY...

declaration of independence. Slovenia's leaders refused on Saturday, saying their declaration, which gave the republic's laws and constitution precedence over those of the Yugoslav federation, was an essential part of its democratic process.

Art Buchwald

Guns are as safe as Hershey almonds

WHEN I saw the news of the gunman who killed a half dozen people in Florida with a semiautomatic rifle. I immediately thought of my friend Charlton Heston and his NRA commercials.

To hear Charlton tell it, guns are as safe as Hershey's almond bars. But when you have a mass killing like the one in Jacksonville, there are always going to be a few sceptical souls who say, "Charlton is gonzo."

It is at times like this that we have to make the pro-gun lobby TV commercials stronger, not weaker. That is what I've been doing for the last few weeks — writing commercials to keep the naysayers from huffing and puffing on the pro-gun lobby's doors.

The first would show a man holding a Colt semiautomatic rifle in his hand. "Hi, I just lost my job at Mom's Diner on Route 66. As you can imagine I don't feel too good about this, so I bought myself a semi. I'm not saying if I'm going to use it or not, but the nice thing about this state is that I didn't have to wait to buy it, in case I get the urge. The man

in the store handed it over as if it was a loaf of French bread. That's why I belong to the National Trigger Association. We have 10 million members, give or take five or ten thousand who get shot accidentally every year."

My second commercial would feature a woman firing a .357 Magnum from her hip. She'd turn to the camera and say, "The National Trigger Association prides itself on teaching women how to shoot. I'm a widow and I don't know what I'd do if I didn't have this gun under my pillow. How did I become a widow? I shot my husband George when he tried to sneak up the stairs after a terrific beer party down at the American Legion hall. I felt terrible about what I did, but everyone tells me not to worry — at least I proved I was a good shot."

Killing

The third commercial would have an army general in full uniform. "I've been around guns all my life," he'd say. "And all the stories you hear about them killing people are malarkey. What kills people

are the bullets. This country needs every gun it can get its hands on. We have our choice of fighting the anti-handgun people on the sands of California or on the shores of Tennessee. Write to your congressman today and tell him that if he is even thinking of passing anti-gun legislation, he'll get his jockey shorts filled with lead."

The last commercial I wrote was for Charlton Heston, although I am not sure he'll do it. It would show Charlton as Moses from his movie, "The Ten Commandments." He would be saying:

"At the time God gave me the Ten Commandments He specifically did not tell me 'Thou shalt not own a handgun.' When I asked Him about this, He replied, 'What's a handgun?' I told Him that it was just a sporting weapon my people use for target practice in the Sinai desert."

"God asked, 'Doesn't it kill anybody?'"

"No, God. Guns don't kill people — You kill people."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Albania

Alia appears undeterred

VIENNA, Austria, (AP): Albanian leader Ramiz Alia appears unshaken in his determination to keep a tight rein on reform despite unprecedented turmoil reflecting popular dissatisfaction with decades of harsh communist rule.

Foreign embassies remained crowded with thousands of discontented countrymen seeking new homes abroad and there were reports of orderly protest against the leadership over the past few days.

But potentially more threatening to the regime was general dissatisfaction with a slow conservative approach to changing a command economy producing a standard of living falling increasingly behind the rest of the continent.

Alia began tinkering with the Stalinist economic, political and social systems he inherited even before the rush on foreign embassies in Tirana last week.

Under relatively timid reforms begun in May, citizens with no previous hope of travelling abroad are now entitled to passports; a ban on religion has been lifted as has the death penalty for defectors; and modest economic retooling has been promised.

The country, long considered the hermit of Europe for its isolationist policies, has signalled willingness to restore ties with both superpowers. It plans to join the 35-nation Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe after being the only nation on the continent to boycott it.

But Alia so far has drawn the line on reforms like those accepted by communists in other East European countries such as Hungary and Bulgaria, who voluntarily abolished their monopoly on power and introduced multi-party democracies.

At a special session of the Communist Party Central Committee called in part to deal with the embassy standoffs, Alia said that the party would remain unchallenged.

"What is of fundamental importance is the fact that the masses should be led by the party," Alia told the plenum over the weekend. His comments, carried by the state ATA news agency, avoided any reference to even limited political plurality.

While the Central Committee approved personnel changes in the party and government, Alia's authority appeared unshaken: Several old-guard Politburo members were replaced with younger men believed closer to his way of thinking.

As well, the naming of Hekuran Isai as interior and police minister signalled seeming determination to deal harshly with any challenge from the street of the kind ending communist rule in Romania, Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

Isai had bled the post under Enver Hoxha, the founder of communist Albania and Alia's predecessor. The choice was, therefore, at least indirectly a move backward for those hoping for a "Central Committee" appointees' unassisted with party intervention.

While the embassy occupations reportedly have been accompanied by sporadic and brief protest rallies, they have been orderly and silent, documenting popular reluctance at this point to test the authorities.

Diplomats and others in the Albanian capital reported rioting last Monday and said police had fired at asylum-seekers storming foreign embassies.

But except for a report that police with nightsticks briefly assaulted several demonstrators with nightsticks, no unrest was documented in recent days.

While police sealed off Embassy Row on the weekend from new asylum-seekers, it appeared they had been ordered to keep a low profile and avoid confrontation as the leadership seeks to weather the storm.

As part of that strategy, authorities agreed Saturday to let the more than 5,000 asylum-seekers emigrate under foreign supervision.

They clearly hoped that sealing of the embassy district and free access to passports will halt another rush on the diplomatic missions and end the threat to unrest.

Alia also announced limited economic reforms to the Central Committee plenum calculated to alleviate low living standards, lack of luxury items and shortages of staples generating widespread dissatisfaction.

He announced wage increases of as high as 20 per cent in some cases and said tradesmen and shopkeepers could once again work for themselves, in a speech calling for "creative initiative" and "rational ways" to improve the economy.

Supporters of the regime feel such moves, coupled with the relaxation of travel and religion will satisfy the population.

"I do not think that the events in Eastern Europe will be repeated here," author Neshat Tozaj told Hungarian TV in an interview aired Sunday. "The recent measures were designed to ease tensions and difficulties."

For the average Albanian, however, such moves may be too little too late, particularly because the liberalised travel laws will allow more of the population of 3.2 million to compare their Spartan existence to life in the West.

While some of the wave of asylum-seekers appeared motivated by frustration over political repression, others were clearly disillusioned by their scramble to make ends meet and ready to risk all for a better economic life.

One of the would-be emigrants, in a telephone interview with Hungarian state radio, said he "just can't make a living" in Albania.

The 28-year-old man said he worked as bricklayer, a chauffeur and a lathe operator for 400 leks (\$60) a month — not enough to support his family.

QUOTE ME

"Either society goes along the road of the deep transformations that have begun... or anti-perestroika forces will get the upper hand, and then dark times are in store for the country and the people." — Mikhail Gorbachev, arguing the case for reform.

"Behaviour has been deplorable in some instances but I would say that the number of people deported from Italy presents a distorted picture somewhat of the situation. The fans heeded the warning that the Italian authorities would not tolerate any anti-social behaviour." — An English official on English soccer fans at the World Cup.

البحر العربي

Strike marks 31 months of uprising

US, Soviets criticised

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 9. (AP): Muslim fundamentalist leaders today criticised the United States of failing to stop Israel's "oppressive measures" and blamed the Soviet Union for a growing flood of Jewish immigration.

The accusations came in a leaflet marking 31 months of the Palestinian uprising against the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinians celebrated the anniversary by staging a general strike throughout the territories in response to orders from PLO-backed leaders of the revolt.

The unified leadership of the uprising, and the fundamentalist Hamas movement called the general strike

Christianity threatened

Leaders discuss

NICOSIA, Cyprus, July 9. (AP): Christian church leaders from the Middle East gathered for a three-day meeting in Cyprus today to consider the growing threats to the survival of Christianity in the troubled region.

A Middle East Council of Churches announcement said the meeting of the 24 members of its executive committee in the south coast city of Limassol "will deal with several issues of key importance for the churches of the Middle East today."

The primary issue is the threat to the survival of the constantly diminishing Christian presence in the region due to emigration.

Others will include "the role of religion in situations of conflict and religious extremism in the region," the statement said.

Conference sources said this item would deal both with the spread of Islamic fundamentalism in the predominantly Muslim region and Israeli moves to minimise Christian presence in occupied Jerusalem.

The statement said the conference will deal specifically with the occupation by Jewish settlers of the Greek orthodox hospice in the Christian Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem earlier in the year.

The meeting of the executive committee is the first since its election by the fifth general assembly of the MECC, also in Cyprus, in January.

The 200 prelates attending the general assembly, which is held every four years, vowed to keep Christianity alive throughout the Middle East.

After deliberating the survival

of the 12 million Christians in the region the prelates declared their determination "not to abandon this region ... irrespective of historical changes and turmoil."

"We shall stay in these lands according to the will of God. This is where we belong and this is where we are rooted," their final communiqué said.

The MECC statement said the executive committee "will determine new directions and priorities for the council based on the recommendations made by the fifth general assembly."

In the six months since the general assembly the situation for the Christians of the region has become more precarious.

In Egypt there were fresh clashes in May between young Muslim zealots attacking the country's minority Christian Copts.

In Jordan and Algeria Islamic fundamentalists have gained real political strength through election victories.

In the Israeli-occupied Arab territories the influence of Islamic fundamentalism is growing, and the Palestinian movement as the anti-Israeli militia or uprising continues unabated.

The 24 members of the MECC executive committee represent the four main Christian sects of the region. The Eastern and Oriental Orthodox, the Catholic and Protestant-Episcopal.

This will be the first meeting of the executive committee since the Catholic churches in the Middle East joined the MECC prior to January's general assembly. Each of the four church families has six representatives on the committee.

in their latest regular leaflets.

Public and private transport ground in a halt and labourers shunned work in Israel as the strike call was honoured in all major towns in the occupied territories and in East Jerusalem.

In the Gaza Strip, 18 Palestinian teenagers were treated in hospitals after being beaten by Israeli soldiers during clashes today, residents said.

Palestinians also reported that a local resident who was stabbed by unidentified assailants on Saturday night died from his wounds the following day.

In Israel, meanwhile, the government shut an Arabic-language weekly newspaper, claiming it was inciteful and "unpatriotic" the cause of the fundamentalist group Hamas, which has been outlawed by the government.

The criticism of the United States and Soviet Union came in a leaflet distributed by Hamas in the territories.

It said Palestinian leaders were wrong in trying to restore the American dialogue with the PLO that Washington broke off last month after an attempted terror attack on an Israeli beach.

"The government of Israel is stepping up its oppressive measures to crush the intifada (uprising), threatening to use helicopters, erecting permanent checkpoints on roads, forming settler guard units," the leaflet said.

"What has the United States done to stop these measures?" it asked.

The leaflet also noted the growing immigration of Soviet Jews to Israel and said, "What has the Soviet Union done to stop the settling of Soviet immigrants in the West Bank?"

Since an influx of Soviet Jews began last year only about 300 of some 65,000 Russian newcomers have settled in the occupied lands. But Arabs have expressed fears the Soviets could move to the territories and push out Palestinian residents.

The Israeli-occupied territories began in 1967 and since then, 723 Palestinians have been killed by Israeli soldiers and civilians and 45 Israelis have been slain by Palestinians. At least 232 Palestinians also have been killed by their fellow Arabs, most as supposed collaborators with Israel.

The fundamentalist magazine closed by Israel for three months is called "The Voice of Right and Freedom" and published in the Israeli Arab village of Umm El Fahm.

Interior Minister Aryeh Deri issued the closure order yesterday, claiming the weekly founded last October was "a trumpet for the 'Hamas' movement in the territories, which has been outlawed."

Arens disbands 'territories forum'

Army unit dispensed due to persistent leaks, bitter infighting

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 9. (AP): Defence Minister Moshe Arens has disbanded an army group that mapped strategy to counter the Palestinian uprising, following infighting and leaks to the media, reports and officials said.

Israeli newspapers yesterday said Arens' decision came because of persistent leaks from the so-called "territories forum," which also is plagued by bitter rivalries.

Arens' move underscored tensions with the military establishment over how to deal with the 31-month uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The tensions have been

fuelled, in part, by a contest for top posts.

The forum is made of Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Dan Shomron, senior army commanders from the occupied territories and the heads of military administration offices there. They met weekly on Fridays with the defence minister.

Arens' aide Dan Naveh confirmed the decision to suspend the forum meetings and said that military strategy decisions did not have to be made at organised meetings.

"What be (Arens) decided was that discussions on that subject will take place in different places with different people he will decide on," Naveh said in a telephone

interview yesterday.

"The leaks did not help, but he would have decided this in any case," Naveh said. He added that Arens wanted flexibility in his dealings with army leadership.

There have been a series of news leaks on Arens' possible strategy for dealing with the uprising since he was appointed defence minister in Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's new right-wing government last month.

One recent report, for instance, said Arens planned to reduce the army presence near Palestinian population centres in the territories to build confidence among the

Palestinians as a prelude to a political move.

The Hebrew daily Haaretz reported last week that Arens was considering "banishment," a form of internal exile, as a new way of punishing uprising leaders. In the past, Israel deported uprising leaders from the country, drawing strong criticism from the United States and international human rights groups.

Haaretz reported yesterday that Arens reached his decision to disband the forum after a new plan to deal with stone throwers in Arab schools was leaked to the newspaper.

US-PLO talks on agenda

AL may hold early meeting

ABU DHABI, July 9. (AP): Arab foreign ministers may hold emergency talks as early as Saturday to discuss a US decision to suspend contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the United Arab Emirates news agency Wam said.

It said the ministers were trying to get the meeting brought forward to July 14 from July 16 at the request of some states but did not say much.

Arab diplomats in Tunis said Iraq had asked to bring the meeting forward because it has its National Day on July 17.

They said they expected Arab states to agree in the change but Arab League sources said consultations were still under way.

In an interview published today, PLO executive committee member Saleem Najah said the PLO wanted the ministers to carry out decisions taken by the Baghdad summit in May.

The decisions included economic measures against countries which help Soviet Jews migrate to Israel. Najah, the leader of the Palestine Communist Party, told the Tunis newspaper Al Bayan that some Arab countries had tried to delay the meeting until they know the results of Egyptian attempts to restore the PLO-American dialogue.

"There is no justification for procrastination. The credibility of the Baghdad summit resolutions depends on practical steps to put them into effect," he said.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat said today he would like to see a resumption of talks between his organisation and the United States on condition the discussions do not remain a "dialogue of the deaf."

"I am not a romantic," Arafat was quoted as telling the weekly Al Yam Al Sabah published in Paris today.

Ami Popper, 21, wearing a white T-shirt and black Bermuda shorts, rose from the dock but just stared straight ahead when questioned by district court judge Chaim Steinberg.

Steinberg ruled that Popper's silence amounted to a plea of innocent to charges he killed seven and wounded 10 Arab labourers from the occupied Gaza Strip in the May 28 massacre in the Tel Aviv suburb of Rishon Letzion.

The indictment said Popper arrived at a gathering place for Arab day labourers in Rishon Letzion, ordered them to sit in a row, took their identity cards and then "fired incessantly" with an automatic rifle.

The massacre sparked a new wave of violence in the 31-month Palestinian uprising. In subsequent protests, 13 more Palestinians were killed by Israeli troops.

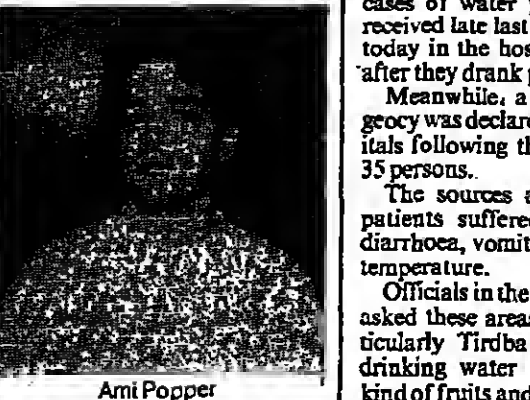
At the beginning of today's court session, Steinberg rejected a request by court-appointed defence attorney David Ofek to be released from the case.

Ofek said he would appeal the decision to the Supreme Court. The attorney told the court that he was unable to mount a defence because Popper was not talking to him.

Ofek also said he has been unable to find a psychiatrist to perform further tests. A five-member panel of psychiatrists has ruled that Popper was fit to stand trial.

Israeli officials initially described Popper as "deranged" and distraught over an unhappy love affair.

Ofek later maintained Popper was trying to kill one man among the 58 labourers waiting at the Rishon Letzion gathering place. Ofek said the intended victim was one of five Arabs who allegedly sexually assaulted Popper when he was 12.



Ami Popper



Water dumping

An Israeli Army Sikorsky helicopter dumps 5,000 litres (1,315 gallons) of water on a forest fire near occupied Jerusalem. 15 hectares (37.5 acres) of forest was damaged in the blaze which took fire-fighters several hours to extinguish. (Reuters wirephoto)

Water poisoning cases reported

Emergency declared

BEIRUT, July 9. (Kuna): The hospitals in south Lebanon today received further water poisoning cases.

Medical sources said that 15 cases of water poisoning were received late last night and early today in the hospitals of Sidon after they drank polluted water.

Meanwhile, a state of emergency was declared in Tyre hospitals following the poisoning of 35 persons.

The sources added that the patients suffered from severe diarrhoea, vomiting and high of temperature.

Officials in the south hospitals asked these areas residents particularly Tirdba town to stop drinking water and eating all kind of fruits and vegetables.

The recorded cases of diarrhoea and intestinal infections reached 1,500 this month in south Lebanon.

Meanwhile, an American expert in water sources in the Middle East has charged Israel of pumping southern Lebanese waters into its northern settlements for the past three months.

Lebanese daily 'As Safir' today quoted Thomas Naff, director of the Middle East Research Department at the Pennsylvania University, as saying that the Hebrew state had started three months ago transporting Litai river waters via huge tankers into its northern settlements in the Galilee finger.

Peres, Rabin in personal conflict

Shahal steps in

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, July 9. (AP): A former minister yesterday announced his candidacy for Labour Party head amid a heated showdown between current chairman Shimon Peres and rival Yitzhak Rabin.

Moshe Shahal said he chose to run because the campaign had become more of a personal conflict between Peres, 66, and Rabin, 68, than one of ideologies.

"I think those two would do the most important thing for the Labour Party if they would announce that they were not running ... giving the next generation an opportunity to compete for the leadership," Shahal said on Israeli television.

He is the first Labour figure from the younger generation to step forward as the centre-left party heads toward a leadership contest later this month.

The 55-year-old lawyer is of Iraqi origin and as a Sephardi Jew — those from Arab nations — he stands a chance of winning the Labour Party some crucial support from many Sephardi Israelis who have voted for the rival Likud bloc.

A former party whip, Shahal rose through party ranks and when the Labour Party set up a national unity government with the Likud bloc in 1984 he was appointed energy minister, a post he held until this March.

As Peres's right-hand man, Shahal was one of the architects of the Labour Party's peace ideas and he is known as a political moderate. He speaks Arabic and supports US Secretary of State James A. Baker III's peace plan for preliminary Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo.

With the outcome on a knife edge, Shahar's rightist Likud legislator Sarah Doron from a Tel Aviv Hospital where she was in intensive care after minor heart surgery operation yesterday.



Former energy minister Moshe Shahal, 55, declares his candidacy to lead Israel's troubled Labour Party on Sunday.

"I think the Labour Party today needs to deal with ideologies to confront the Likud — the right-wing extremist government — and not with personal competitions."

Shahar ordered an ambulance to bring a sick supporter to Parliament today to help him defeat no-confidence motions threatening his month-old Israeli government.

With the outcome on a knife edge, Shahar's rightist Likud legislator Sarah Doron from a Tel Aviv Hospital where she was in intensive care after minor heart surgery operation yesterday.

The clash of old, new

Focus on Damascus

DAMASCUS, July 9. (AP): Perched on stilts, a boxy concrete building surmounts the remains of the 2,000-year-old Roman temple of Jupiter in teeming Damascus, dramatizing the clash of old and new in this ancient city.

Abutting it, a modern, marble-clad temple of commerce with jewellers' shops and clothes boutiques stands just opposite the ancient Islamic Medressah or school of Nur Ed-Din.

"It's a bad integration of the old and the new," said Nazib Kawakibi, a professor of architecture at Damascus University and a member of several restoration committees. "They could have done it much better."

Like many cities in the Middle East, Damascus is bulging at the seams and working hard to provide housing and services to a population estimated at 2 million.

Damascus is considered one of the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world. It is where the Arameans, nomads from the Arabian peninsula, settled in 1200 B.C., eventually building a city that became a key commercial centre.

It has been occupied over the centuries by the Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs and Ottomans, leaving a treasure trove of monuments reflecting the cultural tides that have swept over the city.

Some ancient sites were venerated by all the occupiers, like the famed Ummayyad Mosque. The site originally was a temple to Haddad, the Arameans' god of thunder and lightning.

It later became the Romans' Temple of Jupiter. The Byzantines built a cathedral there, but the Arabs transformed it into the Mosque, named after the Islamic dynasty.

Despite this cultural wealth, there are only limited resources available to preserve these sites.

Kawakibi points out the ancient medressah across the street, which is just on the edge of a straight, European-style avenue driven through the city by French colonisers in the 1930s.

"They stopped here, they didn't go further, thanks be to God," said the architect-restorationist, who has devoted his life to the preservation of his beloved old Damascus.

One 14th century Mamluk tomb has been rented to a merchant who sells multicoloured cloth. He has destroyed the original lintel and cut a door through an ancient wall to allow access to his shop.

"Unless we propose a solution to blend those monuments with the commercial life of the old city of Damascus, this is the way it all will go," Kawakibi said.

"These buildings shouldn't function as commercial buildings, but as museums or cultural centre. They're all registered as historical monuments, but the law hasn't been able to prevent them from being transgressed."

In one old mosque, the antique wooden minbar or preacher's stand has been ripped out and left lying in the entrance to the building, to be replaced by a concrete one.

One architectural gem, the 11th century Nur Ed-Din Hospital, is sandwiched between a modern shop selling swarms, thinly sliced meat wrapped in Arabic bread, and a jewellers' store. But it has miraculously survived and was restored in the late 1970s.

"Parasitic building accumulated around it but they're now just part of the ambience," said Kawakibi, a leading light behind the hospital's renovation.

Only one of the original stone-lattice windows, carved in intricate geometric designs, had survived but was faithfully copied by today's master craftsmen.

Iraqi delegation returns: A Red Crescent delegation, the first Iraqi team to visit Iran since the outbreak of the Gulf war in 1980, returned to Baghdad on Sunday after delivering relief aid for Iranian earthquake victims.

An Iraqi official said on Monday the team had flown to Tehran with blankets, tents, clothes, food and detergents.

A second Iraqi aircraft carried medicines and medical equipment to the Iranian capital after an earthquake killed about 40,000 people in northwest Iran in June. (Reuters)

Wants European investment: The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) wants private European investment in the Israeli-occupied territories, the head of the organisation's economic department said in an interview published on Monday.

Abu Ala, a leading member of the mainstream group Fatah, was speaking to the PLO news agency Wafa about the European Economic Community's latest economic measures in favour of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The EEC summit in Dublin last month decided to encourage exports from the occupied territories, increase aid and assign an EEC representative there. (Reuters)

Afghan chief justice relieved: Afghanistan's chief justice has been relieved of his post as part of constitutional reforms the government says will open up the country's political system, officials said on Monday.

Nizamuddin Tazib was relieved of his duties as chief justice because he was a member of President Najibullah's ruling Watan, or Homeland, Party. A new draft constitution approved by a tribal grand assembly last May bans members of any political party from holding judicial office. (Reuters)

PLO essential to peace: Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouni said on Monday peace between Israelis and Palestinians was impossible without the backing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

"No one can deliver or reach a compromise without the support of (PLO leader) Yasser Arafat," he

told US Jews and Israeli Labour Party activists. Egypt, the only Arab nation to have made peace with Israel, is a key mediator in peace efforts. (Reuters)

FLN may elect politician: Algeria's Ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), shaken by defeat in local elections last month, may elect a new politician at a meeting which opened in Algiers, the official news agency APS said.

Members of the 268-strong FLN central committee, assessing the election results and discussing how to restore the party's credibility, told the agency a new politburo would mark a step towards renewing the party. (Reuters)

Libya accepts Chad meet: Libyan Foreign Minister Azzouzi Al Talhi said Sunday his country has agreed to a proposal by President Hosni Mubarak to host a summit meeting between Libyan President Muammar Khaddafi and his Chadian counterpart Hissen Habre.

Al Talhi's remarks were broadcast by Cairo Radio but the radio station gave no further details.

"Libya has agreed to a proposal by President Mubarak to host a summit meeting between President Khaddafi and President Habre," Cairo Radio quoted Al Talhi as saying. (UPI)

EEC ministers invite Levy: Three European Economic Community (EEC) foreign ministers have invited Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy for talks this month, an Israeli official said on Sunday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Yossi Amichud said Israel had not yet accepted the invitation by Italy, current EEC president, Ireland and Luxembourg, citing Levy's health as the determining factor. He has been recovering from a minor heart attack.

The EEC last month sharply criticised Israel for human rights violations in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, site of a 31-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule. (Reuters)

Chad voters await result: Voters on Monday awaited results from their first contested election since independence in 1960, but opposition parties remain banned and virtually all candidates were from the ruling party. (AP)

Fierce fighting reported at Afghan rebel stronghold in the mountains of Paghman

KABUL, July 9. (Reuters): Afghan troops and mujahedeen rebels fought fierce battles over the weekend in the mountains of Paghman, a key rebel stronghold which has been used to launch rocket attacks on the capital, Kabul.

Report from both sides said hundreds of soldiers and rebels have been killed in the last few weeks in a fresh outbreak of fighting in the area just west of Kabul. Both sides claimed victory in the weekend battles.

General Mohammad Azimi, Kabul garrison commander and Afghanistan's deputy defence minister, said on Saturday that government troops had

managed to dislodge many rebels from the valley, about 18 km (11 miles) west of Kabul.

"Afghan forces have achieved what Soviet troops could not achieve in their 10 years of occupation. We have gone deep inside the Paghman Valley, and will now get involved in reconstruction," Azimi said.

But a spokesman for the Jamiat-e-Islami, one of the main mujahedeen groups based in Pakistan that are fighting to overthrow the Kabul government, said today the government's report was "baseless and wrong."

"The fierce fighting has continued this weekend," he said. "The Kabul regime wants to force the

mujahedeen out of the Paghman valley, but they have failed," said the spokesman, Baser.

Diplomats in the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, said Paghman had become a main area of fighting between mujahedeen and government forces in the last three months and seemed to have reached a bloody stalemate.

"The regime is expending considerable force in trying to move the mujahedeen out of their rocketing positions, but without much success," said one Western diplomat specialising in Afghan affairs.

Azimi, who took command of the Paghman operation in early April, acknowledged the Pagh-

man mountains were favourable for rebel warfare, and rebels were well-supplied.

The Afghan government receives most of its arms from the Soviet Union, while the mujahedeen are backed mainly by the United States.

The Kabul government said there were 3,500 mujahedeen rebels, mostly well-entrenched in caves that could not be bombed by air or artillery.

"Our forces killed 400 rebels and wounded more than a thousand during the operation," Azimi said, adding that "government forces lost just 50 troops and 300 were injured."

EVENTS

Bigger the hunk, bigger the heart

By Judy Byrne

THEY are handsome hunks whose natural habitat seems to be the bedroom of a millionaire mansion or an expensive restaurant, across the table from a designer-dressed beauty.

Their deepest concern, you might be forgiven for thinking, is the depth of their tans or the size of their ratings.

But when the cameras stop rolling, they slip away from the glitz to help some of the world's less lucky people — to work with runaways and children doomed to die.

They are not into publicity-stunt charity, playing the do-gooder in a champagne limelight with a picture in the papers as a pay-off.

This is gritty, tough, unlovely, heart-tugging. And very, very private. These are the stars who give precious time rather than surplus cash and tell of it only when they are pressed.

Like Michael Nader who when he has switched off as *Dynasty's* gravel-voiced Dex Dexter, tells kids there is more to life than drink and drugs — a lesson he learned the hard way himself.

Like Jack Scalia *Dallas's* Nicholas Pearce whose heart has gone out to abused children so disturbed that they have failed to fit into as many as a dozen foster homes.

Ted McGinley (*Dynasty's* Clay Fallmont) who goes to a camp in Malibu to work with children dying of cancer and calls it "the most fulfilling thing I've done in my entire life."

Heart-throb John James (Jeff Colby in *Dynasty*) who went to war-torn Ecuador to raise money for rejected handicapped children.

Corbin Bernsen (*L.A. Law's* yuppie lawyer Arnie Becker) who dreams of giving kids in trouble a passport to a project to build new homes for homeless families — and new lives for themselves.

The Emmy-winning show's handsome black lawyer Blair Underwood whose heart — and time — have gone out to black children in Los Angeles in need of tender loving family life.

Roger Rabbit star Bob Hoskins drove 1,200 miles into the Sahara desert with toys for some of the 75,000 refugee children he dreams of taking for a seaside holiday one day.

Baywatch and Knight Rider star David Hasselhoff's heart was so touched by one dying boy that he now turns his travels into a mission of mercy to the world's tragic children.

And actor David Prowse — *Star Wars* villain Darth Vader — is battling with agonising arthritis while helping children with the same crippling illness.

Ted McGinley, 29, regularly heads for the mountains of Malibu to camp with children terminally ill with cancer. But, says Ted, there is more laughter than tears.

"The children are never depressing and I'm never sad. They complain only about small things like having an injection but never, say, when they have to have a leg amputated. They are



Roger Rabbit star Bob Hoskins drove into the Sahara desert to help refugee children.

phenomenal. "For 10 days at a time, I go up there. It is wonderful at that camp. The kids throw up on me — or worse — but they are great. When I leave, I feel as though I'm on Cloud Nine. But as soon as I'm home, I miss those youngsters."

Hunky 6ft 4ins David Hasselhoff's life changed dramatically when the Starlight Foundation, which grants wishes for chronically and terminally ill children, arranged for a little boy to visit the Knight Rider set to meet the 28-year-old actor.

Hasselhoff says: "I gave him a Knight Rider hat and jacket. After the boy's visit, I stayed in constant communication with him and his family. Six months later, sadly, he died. He had chosen to be buried in his Knight Rider coat."

"In just four years on *Knight Rider*, I saw 500 kids. Quite a few of those have since died. And I took the whole thing one step further when I started motor-racing."

With race ace Mario Andretti, he has formed Race For Life to take children to the racetracks to meet Mario, Michael Andretti and Paul Newman. He says: "Sometimes they will spend a day at the Indy 500 at Indianapolis. Over five years we have brought 500 kids to the Indy."

David has launched a second successful career in pop. And as he sings his way around the world, he has taken time out to visit children in hospitals and orphanages in no fewer than 18 countries.



David Hasselhoff, whose life was changed when he met a little boy who was terminally ill.

"I find this work very rewarding," he says. "I am able to have an opportunity to be on this Earth to accomplish something besides music, TV and me, me, me."

"God's Children" have woo the heart of former professional athlete Jack Scalia. The 37-year-old actor explains: "I give a lot of my time to an organisation called Child Help, USA. It is for chil-

On TV, they live in a gilded world of power and glamour — but off-screen the heart-throbs of *L.A. Law*, *Dallas* and other top shows are super-Samaritans helping the tragic kids that society's forgotten

dren who have been battered physically, verbally or emotionally.

"I call them 'God's Children' because they have been given a special licence by Him to be survivors," I go out and see them on a large ranch outside Palm Springs.

"I have to remember I can't solve their problems for them. I can only act as some sort of light, encourage them, be supportive, show them love. One of the traps is that I want to take them home with me."

"I walk away from that ranch totally drained because those kids are like batteries in need of charging."

Michael Nader, 42, who has a little daughter of his own, has a soft centre when it comes to children in trouble. He spends hours chatting to runaways who are into everything from acting in pornographic movies to terminal drug abuse.

He says: "A good friend of mine is a child psychologist at a place called Cry Help in the San Fernando Valley. It is a rehabilitation centre for teenagers. I sit down and talk with

them about the reality of what they are doing. Every day I see such terrible abuse affecting young people.

"I've had success with two kids. But I've lost many more — and buried two. I lose them through drugs or perhaps they are shot dead doing an attempted robbery. There are even kids of 11 who are totally gone — strung out on drugs."

It is handicapped kids who have won the heart of rugged John James. He took his tennis racket to Ecuador to help them.

He said: "They asked me if I would go down and play a little tennis to raise money. They want to fund an orphanage where handicapped children can learn a skill. They are kids who cannot go through the normal educational system."

"Training means they can become self-sufficient. Otherwise they would be out on the street, not taken care of. They can very easily die — and many do. I feel very strongly about these children."

James, 33, discovered the country was so dangerous that he was given personal bodyguards who always carried pistols and were with him 24 hours a day.

He recalls: "They even followed me to the bathroom. In the end I had to say, 'Look guys, lighten up. Lay off a little.'"

Corbin Bernsen ran in the L.A. Marathon to raise money for the runaways who roam the boulevards of the city in gangs. He has given his time as well as money to a project called Teen Canteen, which gives homeless youngsters both food and shelter.

"A lot of these kids come from really terrible families and have been kicked out," Bernsen says. "I ask them why they don't go home and they simply reply, 'I just ain't got no home to go to, man.'"

Bernsen, 35, who has a baby son named Oliver, adds: "These kids sleep rough and run around in packs. More and more of them get into gangs and crime. Yet these youngsters are the key to the future. I work with them so that, hopefully, they make a change within themselves."

He has a dream of intervention on an even grander scale — a project that would teach them the skills of carpenters, electricians and plumbers and provide the chance to use them building new communities for homeless people.

"I want to give kids in trouble with the law a choice between going to court or taking part in my project," he says. "Kids in trouble need direction."

Blair Underwood, *L.A. Law's* handsome black lawyer, has helped set up a charity called Institute for Black Paralegal to help find homes for black children who have fallen on hard times.

He explains: "My 10-year-old sister Melissa — my little buddy — is adopted. So I'm very much involved. In this city alone there are about 200 black children who need homes."

"Some have been abandoned. Others have parents who are drug addicts. The bottom line is that these children need to be put



John James of *Dynasty* went to war-torn Ecuador to raise money for handicapped children.

into a home environment where they are loved, supported and shown respect."

When Bob Hoskins opened his mail one morning, it contained a letter and a video of the Earl of Winchelsea who wanted to recruit him to the cause of refugees in the Western Sahara.

The 44-year-old Cockney star says: "It was the video that persuaded me. I was sitting there having my corn flakes, in tears."

First, he interrupted filming the thriller-comedy *Heart Condition* to go out and see first-hand the plight of the 200,000 people living in refugee camps, victims of a desert war that has raged for 14 years.

He drove as part of an expedition with ambulances and taxis taking supplies and toys. "I felt like Father Christmas," he says.

"The President of those people told me the best thing I could do was bring a film down there. So that's what I decided to do."

He recruited the team with whom he made *The Long Good Friday* in 1982 to make a terrorist story called *Candide* there this year.

"The Algerian government will cop a few bob and so will my Western Saharans," he says.

Dave Prowse took a break from filming in *Star Wars* to make a series of commercials and began a second career teaching road safety to children.

Since the advertisements first appeared, the accident figures involving children have halved in Britain and millions of school-children round the world have got to know him as the Green Cross Code man.

Now big-hearted Dave, who stands 6ft 6ins, is crippled by arthritis of the hip which has left him hobbling around on a stick. But he is going on a tour of Australia to help children who suffer from rheumatism and arthritis.

The 53-year-old actor says: "I didn't realise kids could get arthritis. I thought it was something older people had. But I got a letter from the Western Australian Arthritis Foundation asking me if I would send over some *Star Wars* material for the kids who have arthritis."

"So I offered to go to Australia to do a tour and meet all the kids and drum up publicity for the cause as well as giving road safety talks for the schools."

When it comes to helping children, it seems the rule is the bigger the hunk, the bigger the heart.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons
9.40 Iflah Ya Simsim: a programme for children
10.10 Good Morning
10.30 Waad Al Nahar: Arabic serial, featuring Azza Kamal, Mustafa Fahmi
11.15 Sabah Al Khair
12.00 Al Kanaz: Arabic serial, starring: Hind Kamel, Nazar Al Samari
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.30 Cartoon
2.00 Al Sanafer: cartoon serial
2.30 Saif Haar: Arabic serial
3.00 Masrah Al Muwahib: Talented People's Theatre
4.15 Huwar Wa Nigham: variety programme, presented by Hanan Al Sa'ali
5.15 Cartoons
5.30 Adventures: cartoon serial
6.00 Variety
6.30 Kan'a Ma Kan'a: children's serial
7.30 Songs
8.00 Al Anes Wal Jalees: cultural programme
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Raqeeb La Yanam: Arabic serial, featuring Ahmad Mazhar, Samiya Al Ali
11.00 Irbam Damou'i: Arabic feature film, starring: Faten Hamama, Yahya Shahin, Shukri Sarhan, Rushdi Abaza
12.30 News Summary

12.35 World News via Satellite
1.50 Holy Quran: Closes down

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Chic and Dale's Rescue: cartoon serial
6.30 The New Mickey Mouse Club: future planning, baby-sitters and how to make use of your old clothes are some of the items featured in this episode.
7.00 International Overdoorsman: "Sailing Tall Ships." A look at ship repairs.
7.30 Kate and Allie: "Moving On." Kate, instead of attending Allie's 40th birthday party, makes other plans.
8.00 News in English
8.40 You and the Law: a weekly programme on Kuwaiti laws, prepared by the Interior Ministry.
9.10 Bordertown
9.50 Perfect Strangers: "Taking Stock." Larry buys shares and believes he has become a top businessman.
10.30 Best Seller: "The Fortunes of War." Set in 1939, it follows the movement of refugees to Romania after German occupation.
12.30 News in Brief
12.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown
Please note that Kuwaiti television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.



Kate and Allie, tonight, KTV 2

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Jazira Al Shaitan (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra Al Samiya
Arabic play
Al Hamra
Al Moallim Samah (Arabic)
Starring: Ezzat Alaili, Madiba Kamel

Drive-In
Jazira Al Shaitan (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Yusra Al Samiya
TV Negin Maio Sopera (Hindi)
Starring: Sumet Saigal, Sonika Gill

Fahad Open-Air
Dost Garibon Ka (Hindi)
Starring: Govinda

Al Fahad
Hanafi Al Abhahu (Arabic)
Al Jahra
Nepale Meye (Bengali)
Granada
Closed
Sulabikhat
In the Line of Duty
Al Jleeb
Oru Vadakkam Veera Gadha (Malayalam)
Starring: Mammooty
Ahmadi Drive-In
Al Raqassah Wal Siyassi (Arabic)

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.22 am
Zuhr	11.53
Asr	3.27 pm
Maghreb	6.51
Isha	8.21



Actor David Prowse, Darth Vader in the *Star Wars* trilogy, with two of the children he helps who are suffering from arthritis.

WHAT'S ON

Approb 'Who's Who' directory

THE Association of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is planning to publish a "Who's Who" directory of prominent Pakistani professionals and businessmen resident in Kuwait by January 1991. The directory aims at providing information about all Pakistanis proficient and distinguished in their professions and businesses.

Data forms are available free of cost from Approb executive board members and other locations. For further details contact Approb on Tel. No. 2425315, Fax 5323751, P.O. Box 2351, Salmiya, 22024 Salmiya, Kuwait.

A copy of the directory will be given free of charge to all individuals whose names will appear in the directory.

Summerbelle '90

Aug 2: United Goans Centre will hold Summerbelle '90 at the SAS Hotel's The Tent. Top Ranks and Hurricane Alley in attendance. For reservations call Tony 2612024; Cyril 253930; Joe 5655140.

French National Day

July 13: French Ambassador Jean Bellivier invites the French community to a reception, 7 pm, at his residence, Jabriya, Block 10.

July 14: The Ambassador also invites the French community to a reception, from 7 to 9 pm, at the Meridien Hotel, Jahra Ballroom.

Kapilku

July 19: Kapilku awards certificates of attendance to those who attended tailoring, bookkeeping, basic accounts and basic computer courses. The ceremony will be held at Al Arahia Restaurant, 8 pm. Philippine Ambassador Maunag Mohammad Tamano will be the chief guest. Buffet dinner, KD 3 per person. Proceeds will go towards the school fund.

Those who attended self-improvement classes are asked to contact Sarah Macarim-bang. Tel: 4839009, 4839889, 4843447.

Goan drama

Sept 21: Goan comedy king Bab Prince Jacob will present the comedy "Pergaum" (announcement) at Indian Arts Circle. The programme will be organised by Menino de Sanvordem. For details call Fernandes: 2435685; 2435688.

Natya Bharati

Natya Bharati calls amateur dramatists to audition for their fourth Hindi production entitled "Badi Buji" (The Big Aunt), a full-length comedy which will be performed in mid-October. Required a female lead, young smart lady, past stage experience would be an asset, two supporting actresses, character actors, a middle-aged man with a good personality and two young men in their early 30s. Genuinely interested people who plan to stay in Kuwait during summer

holidays can contact 4880965 or 5623810 after 1.30 pm or 3721545 after 8.30 am for further details.

Sur Sangeet

July 19: A musical evening will be presented by Sur Sangeet group to say farewell to outgoing Indian Second Secretary S.M. Mathur. Singers participating in the show include Valencia, Rosebud, Laxmi, Charlie, Shahnaz Karim.

British Council

July 14/15: 6.30 pm. "The Shooting Party" (92 minutes). They are elegant, arrogant and assured. They dine, shoot, gossip and flirt. But then, it is 1913 and disturbing undercurrents lie beneath the glittering facade of this film. James Mason's swan song. Winner of the Best of the British Director Award. Admission free. But reservations must be made. Tel: 2533204; 2533227.

At the Holiday Inn

Al Ahmadi College Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner. Buffets featuring Continental and Oriental cuisine; emphasis on seafood.

Al Andalus Supper Club: Arabic style dining on Thursday nights; music by resident Arab band.
Friday Family Lunch: Disney Fantasy; children half price.

At the Meridien

La Brasserie
Thai Corner: Saturday night.
Cowboy Night: Every Sunday, with live country music.
Chinese Corner: Monday night feature.

Greek Taverna: Mediterranean magic with bouzouki music.
Indonesian corner: on Wednesdays; food prepared in front of you.

Jazz Night: New Orleans atmosphere on Thursday night.
Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet; family day.
Versailles: Business lunch; and a la carte dinner.

At the Messiah Beach

Al Mubarakiah: open around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays — Middle Eastern cuisine.

Al Jawharah: Thursday special — special menu; music by Rainbow Band.
Al Berdoweh: BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

At the International

Fallaka: situated on the 19th floor, overlooking the coastline, it offers international cuisine; live entertainment in the evenings. Closed on Fridays.

La Palma: offers buffet as well as a la carte. Family style brunch on Fridays.

Ker: offers Japanese dining in an oriental atmosphere.
La Patisserie: selection of snacks; pianist in the evenings.
Al Wah: ice cream promotion featuring different flavours, until August 1990.

At the Plaza:

Al Dallah Coffee Shop: international cuisine; open buffet plus menu.
Lolouwah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks.
Marco Polo: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

At the SAS

Bisireto: Sunday/Wednesday — pasta night; Italian music.
Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.
Al Boom: Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezzeh buffet.
Clock: snack bar — burgers, french fries, etc.

At Al Salam

July 12-19: Seafood festival at El Bender Coffee Shop; 7 pm to midnight. Flotet Al Salam features jumbo shrimps and lobsters and other seafood specialities.

Sport

Scrabble tournament
July 20: Due to insistent ladies' demand, the Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck) will sponsor an all female scrabble tournament. It will held at the Kabayan Restaurant.

The tournament is open to all Filipinas in Kuwait. It will be conducted in two stages.

Registration is now open at Kabayan Restaurant. Deadline for submission of entries is Sunday, July 15, 1990. Trophies and valuable gift items await the winners. For more information call 2402405 — Liza.

هناك أحداث

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Strong pound steals limelight

LONDON, July 9. (Agencies): Britain's pound sterling traded sharply higher today, stealing the limelight in an otherwise quiet European currency market, dealers said. Gold closed lower.

The pound ended at an 18-month high of \$1.8045, although well off the day's peak of 1.8045, and was up more than two pence at 2.9773 German marks.

There is still a desire to hurry pounds and a climate of lethargy regarding dollar/mark," said Paul Chertkow, chief currency strategist at Citicorp in London.

Today's rally was sparked by an article in the Sunday Times newspaper which said the Bank of England was ready to let the pound rise above three marks before considering a cut in bank base rates which have been at a relatively high 15 per cent since last October.

The report said Bank of England officials would like to see sterling return to levels of a year ago, about five to 10 per cent above current levels.

The dollar, meanwhile, closed at 1.6495 marks and 151.00 yen compared with Friday's 1.652 and 150.80. It was lower against both the French and Swiss francs.

Although it looks like slipping further, dealers said there was strong technical support at 1.6450 marks.

European stock markets were generally weaker. London shares ended a lifeless day mixed with the Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares holding in a narrow range and closing 2.5 points down at 2,337.5.

The pound's gain weighed on the market as analysts moved to trim profit forecasts for exporting companies.

Frankfurt shares were down but dealers said the mood remained positive. Paris stocks were also lower while Zurich shares were firmer but closed below the day's high.

Gold closed \$3 lower in London at \$358.2 an ounce.

The US dollar declined slightly against the Japanese yen today, while the Tokyo Stock Exchange's key index closed higher.

After opening at 151.65 yen, the dollar slipped to 150.70 at the close, down .25 yen from last Friday's close of 150.95 yen. It ranged between 150.67 yen and 151.70 yen.

On the stock market, the Nikkei Stock Average of 225 selected issues gained 93.16 points, or 0.29 per cent, closing at 32,538.28. The index had gained 93.45 points on Friday.

Volume on the first section was estimated at 400 million shares, down from 462 million shares on Friday.

In New York, the stock market rose moderately this morning in sluggish early trading.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials rose 8.91 to 2,913.86 at 10.30 am EDT (1430 GMT) in the first hour.

Gainers held a slight edge on losers in trading of all New York Stock Exchange-listed issues, with 370 up, 350 down and 489 unchanged. Volume on the NYSE came to 15.87 million shares in the first half hour.

The Kuwaiti dinar interbank deposit market was active today, with most business concentrated on short dates, dealers said.

All short dates were being quoted in the range 8-3/4 to 8-1/2 per cent at the end of the morning. Fixed rates were generally quiet, they said, and rates were quoted unchanged from Sunday.

One and three months were quoted at 8-3/4 to 8-1/2, and six months and one year at 8-7/8 to 8-5/8.

The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 0.29117/27 to the dollar.

At the start of foreign exchange trading in Switzerland today, one Kuwaiti dinar was trading at 4.7905 Swiss francs, as against the closing rate last Friday 4.8108, the Swiss-Kuwaiti bank reported.

Against the dinar, the German mark opened at 5.6652 (5.6788), the pound sterling 1.9041, Japanese yen 117.1419 (118.1550), and the US dollar 3.4308 (3.4320).

The Saudi riyal interbank deposit market saw activity in both short dates and fixed rates today, dealers said.

Business had picked up after the quiet Saturday/Sunday period, they said, and there was liquidity in the market. At the end of the morning, one month was being quoted at 8-7/8 per cent, three months at 8-3/4 to 8-1/2, six months at 8-1/4 to 8-1/8, and one year at 8-5/8 to 8-1/4.

Summit opens, leaders divided

US steps up pressure on allies

HOUSTON, July 9. (Agencies): The United States stepped up pressure on its allies today to stop a headlong dash to send aid to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as leaders of the seven largest industrialised nations began their first summit since the end of the cold war.

It also urged the seven to settle their differences at the Houston economic summit on ways to slash the \$245 billion that major nations spend each year to protect their farmers' incomes.

This 16th annual gathering of the United States, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy, Japan and Canada will take stock of economic frictions that are increasingly irritating now that East-West tensions have declined.



Bush and Barbara attend a barbeque in Houston with the world leaders. (Reuters wirephoto)

Dominating their talks at Rice University, a prestigious university with a campus modelled on Venetian courtyards, will be efforts to help Gorbachev implement his troubled reform programme, move world trade talks forward and clear up the global environment.

Houston, billing itself as an international city in the muggy flatlands of southeast Texas, has given the summit participants and 4,000 visiting journalists a grand "down-home" welcome with rodeo events, a barbecue dinner and country music entertainment.

Before officially opening the summit US President George Bush held separate talks with French President Francois Mitterrand and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

West Germany and France would like to grant direct financial aid to Moscow to help Gorbachev until his economic restructuring programme takes root in Soviet society, West Germany has proposed a \$15 billion Western aid package.

The United States and Britain say that would be a waste until Moscow moves more to a market-oriented economy and stops funneling an estimated \$5 billion to Cuba every year.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Bush reiterated to Mitterrand that technical economic assistance is appropriate for Moscow at this stage and that "further economic reforms and spending priorities in the Soviet Union are necessary before direct aid is justified."

House Chief of Staff John Dingell said on ABC television: "I think the president's going to try and explain the reasons why we are uncomfortable at this point with a rush to judgment in sending, on a multilateral basis, significant aid to the Soviet Union."

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said he was against putting money into Soviet pockets because "they have got holes in them."

Japan says it is against helping the Soviet Union until Moscow returns four islands it seized in World War Two.

A US official said it was likely the summit leaders would produce principles or guidelines allowing each country to go its own way on helping Moscow.

Communique
The leaders will produce a political communique tomorrow and an economic one on Wednesday, both expected to paper over major differences.

Bush is pushing hard for an agreement breaking the stalemate on agricultural subsidies, a divisive economic issue that one commentator likened to the "Beirut" of world trade talks.

Thumbs-up
Bush is a big soccer fan, he told Kohl.

"You don't know you're sitting across from a former soccer player in college," he said before the start of private talks.

Bush said he played for Yale University's eastern college championship team after World War Two.

"I loved the game," he said. Americans have traditionally had a limited interest in soccer but Bush said enthusiasm was growing.

"Willkommen, bail the champions of football," Bush said as he greeted Kohl outside the two-story red brick Houstonian hotel.

Bush gave the thumbs-up sign and said: "It's a big win for Germany," speaking of West Germany's 1-0 victory over Argentina in Sunday's World Cup final.

Bayon Bend, the stately mansion reserved for the dinner for the economic summit participants, has rarely been used for private entertaining since it opened as a museum more than 20 years ago.

Dear Summit

HOUSTON, July 9. (AP): Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is urging the world's seven richest nations to give him a hand in pepping up the Soviet economy. But diplomatic sources said yesterday that Gorbachev did not address any of President George Bush's political reservations to direct US assistance.

The letter, received July 4, underscored the Soviet leader's massive problems in putting perestroika to work. His attempts to adopt some free-market reforms drew strong disapproval last week from more orthodox communist leaders at the 28th Communist Party Congress in Moscow.

Bush, meanwhile, said only last week that he had "big problems" in considering direct US financial aid to the Soviet Union. Still, US officials have suggested the Western nations might go ahead on their own, without American interference.

The letter, the sources said, is a general appeal for assistance from the industrialised nations but it does not make specific requests. Nor, said the sources, who insisted on anonymity, did Gorbachev refer to any of Bush's objections, which include \$5 billion a year in Soviet assistance to Marxist Cuba.

They described the letter as "gracious" and said Gorbachev had not repeated the attempt he made to French President Francois Mitterrand, the host of last July's economic summit in Paris, to have a role in the annual gathering.

Gorbachev addressed this year's letter to Bush, as the host of the annual summit meeting. But the sources said he did not make any direct appeals for change in US policy or attempt to separate the United States from the other leaders who will meet here today.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, with strong support from Mitterrand, is promoting a \$15 billion aid package for Moscow. Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, like Bush, is reluctant to go along.

Gorbachev, in a letter, recounted his efforts to reform the Soviet economy, the sources said. "It is entirely economic, there are no political angles in it," a US official said. "It keeps reiterating that the Soviets are trying to overcome their economic difficulties and that they will do everything they can to reform their economy."

Its theme, the official said, is "we're reforming and we're looking to the outside world to help."

In Moscow, Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said today that Western aid to the Soviet Union would be advantageous both for his country and donor nations.

Shevardnadze made the statement as the leaders of the seven richest countries convened in Houston, Texas, with the issue of providing aid to Moscow at the top of their agenda.

Shevardnadze, asked by reporters at a Communist Party Congress in the Kremlin whether he thought the Soviet Union needed Western aid, said, "I feel it would be advantageous, for us and the West."

But he said he disliked the word "aid" and preferred the terms "credit, technical co-operation, personnel training, joint ventures and joint projects."

Gorbachev is worried his country cannot make the painful leap to a free-market system without Western credits and wants help from the industrial powers to halt the Soviet Union's economic decline.

Asked whether the Soviet Union would cut aid to Cuba, Shevardnadze said that was strictly "a question of bilateral relations." He did not indicate his government's plans.

Soviet troops occupied the Japanese islands in the last days of World War II and have refused to leave.

The credits also would help Soviet businesses meet payments due to Western companies. The Soviet Union traditionally has been punctual in making such payments, and recent delays have eroded confidence among foreign investors.

West Germany already has granted an unconditional loan of \$3.1 billion, and Chancellor Helmut Kohl is apparently growing impatient with opposition from other industrial powers to the Soviet aid plan.

Moscow's balance-of-payments deficit now tops \$2 billion, nearly half of it owed to West German companies. Part of the West German credit is expected to be used to pay overdue bills.

Bush has balked at a massive aid programme until Soviet authorities move more decisively from a planned economy to a market system.

The Soviet Union could use Western cash, but there are questions over how much is needed and what impact it would have.

Mikhail S. Gorbachev

Dear Mikhail

HOUSTON, July 9. (AP): A year ago, the idea would have been unthinkable. Now it is the most compelling question to confront these leaders of the Western world: Should they dig into their deep pockets to help the Soviet Union and Mikhail Gorbachev?

The risk of saying no could be the failure of the ambitious restructuring of the Soviet system, and Gorbachev's downfall. But saying yes has its perils, too, since it would mean pouring billions into an economic morass that has resisted five years of Gorbachev reforms.

"If we're shocked out of the extreme right influences we see at play in the Soviet party conference that is ongoing in Moscow today, I think we would be at an infinitely worse position than we are today," said Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

Still, Mulroney himself isn't ready to provide direct help just now. Mulroney called Soviet aid to Cuba "profoundly unacceptable" and an obstacle to Western aid.

Even more sceptical is US President George Bush, who received Gorbachev's plea for help in his role as host of the annual economic summit of the seven richest nations. The summit opens today.

Bush questions the wisdom of assisting a Kremlin that provides \$5 billion a year to Cuba, spends about one-quarter of its budget on the military and has put free-market procedures into play.

Douglas Hurd, the British Foreign Secretary, left no doubt where Margaret Thatcher's government stands.

The summit's message to Moscow, he said, should be "mend the hole in the pants before you fill the pockets with dimes and cents."

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan reiterated last Friday it would "not be possible" for Japan to participate in economic assistance to Moscow until the Soviets resolved a 45-year territorial dispute over four islands in the Kuril peninsula.

to the other camp are West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand. Kohl wants to put together a \$15 billion aid package for Gorbachev.

According to a well-placed US official, the split over Soviet aid is so deep that the seven governments have not even decided whether to deal with it in their summit-ending declarations later this week.

At this point, said the US official who discussed the issue on condition he not be identified, the three most likely ways of resolving the Soviet aid problem at the summit are these:

■ Declaring each of the seven nations can decide for itself whether to help Gorbachev.

■ Appointing a panel to study the issue, which could put off a decision as long as a year.

■ Tying aid to such requirements as less military spending and a reduction or cutoff of aid to Cuba.

In other developments Thatcher and Kaifu agreed yesterday to stick to a tough line on economic aid to the Soviet Union, and Thatcher also said she did not oppose Japan's plans to resume assistance to China.

"Prime Minister Kaifu got the impression that Prime Minister Thatcher had shown understanding" about Tokyo's readiness to resume a \$5.4 billion loan package to China, Japanese delegation spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters after the two leaders met on the eve of the Houston economic summit.

The European Economic Community, of which Britain is a member, has decided not to reconsider its sanctions against China until at least September, but Japanese officials said Thatcher did not voice opposition to Japan's position.

Thatcher's reported position appeared to coincide with President Bush's position that Japan may pursue the policy it chooses in dealing with China.

Japanese officials argue that aid to China is necessary to avoid further isolation of the Beijing government and to encourage reformers in the leadership to adopt democratic reforms.

Japanese delegation spokesman Watanabe said Japan is trying to seek understanding of its position from summit partners — not approval — but said in apparent reassurance to opponents that even when the programme is resumed, it will be gradual.

When asked about Japan's position on agricultural subsidies pertaining to the thorny issue of rice, Watanabe said Japan is "not in the position to take the initiative on the matter."

European and Japanese opposition to a US-proposed end of agricultural subsidies stood in the way of compromise language urging a successful end to the Uruguay round of global trade negotiations by a December deadline.

Summit seven

Kuwait firm on quota

Mees predicts higher output to stabilise market

KUWAIT, July 9. (Reuters): Kuwait will not drop its demand for a bigger output quota but can be flexible if priorities change, Oil Minister Rashid Salem Al Amerci said in remarks published by a Kuwaiti newspaper. He gave no details.

The Arabic daily said Amerci, appointed last month, was speaking after his return from Algeria where he held talks with Opec President Sadek Boussena and Indonesian Oil Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita. He also visited London.

Saudi bank reports higher profit

BAHRAIN, July 9. (Reuters): United Saudi Commercial Bank (USCB) one of the kingdom's nine joint ventures, said today its net profit for the first six months of 1990 rose by 37 per cent to \$5.8 million riyals (\$14.88 million).

The bank said in a statement an increase in deposits and loans boosted operating income to 99.3 million riyals (\$26.5 million) in the first half of the year from 88.3 million riyals (\$23.5 million) during the same period in 1989.

Expenses were cut to 28.9 million riyals (\$7.7 million) from 32.7 million (\$8.72 million) in the first half of 1989. Provisions against doubtful debt were steady at 15 million riyals (\$4 million).

Loans and advances grew by 49 per cent to 1.2 billion riyals (\$320,000). Assets also surged to 6.07 billion riyals (\$1.6 billion) from 4.67 billion (\$1.2 billion).

USCB is owned 70 per cent by Saudi nationals. Saudi International Bank, Bank Melli Iran, and United Bank Ltd each have 10 per cent.

Restoring price Opec's priority

Aims \$18 target

JAKARTA, July 9. (Reuters): Restoring oil prices to \$18 a barrel from the current \$14 will be the priority at an Opec conference starting in Geneva on July 25, Indonesia's Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said today.

"Restoring the oil price condition is the top priority for Opec in the next conference and quota is a second issue," he told reporters.

"Indonesia will not consider a higher Opec output ceiling and Indonesia will not consider additional quotas for anybody until the \$18 target price has been achieved."

Prices fell below target in early May because overproduction in some countries caused a glut, oil analysts say.

Ginanjar said once the oil price returned to the target level, Opec could discuss quotas.

Amerci said in Algeria on July 5 that Kuwait was cutting excess output and would be flexible on demanding a bigger quota.

Kuwait, and the UAE may receive higher quotas in exchange for a promise to stabilise the oil market, the Middle East Economic Survey (Mees) said today.

Saudi Arabia could also benefit from an increased quota in the fourth quarter of this year in such a tradeoff, it added.

Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies could be willing to keep Opec's present production ceiling of 22.086 million barrels per day (bpd) until the end of September, it said.

An increased ceiling involving higher quotas for Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE could then be put in place for the fourth quarter of 1990 and possibly also for the first quarter of 1991, the newsletter said.

Mees said the Gulf positions were discussed at a meeting in Algeria on July 4 between Opec president, Kuwaiti and Indonesian oil ministers.

"Kuwait for its part is sticking to its insistence on a higher quota but is indicating it could be part of a wider tradeoff — namely higher quotas for Kuwait and other Gulf producers with high reserves and capacity in exchange for strict observance of the new quotas..." it said.

Mees said this would be acceptable to Kuwait and the UAE as well as Saudi Arabia which wanted higher prices under an increased Opec ceiling while maintaining its minimum share of 24.45 per cent.

Oil ministers from the four big Gulf Arab producers — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq and the UAE — are to meet in Jeddah on July 10 to discuss policies ahead of Opec's next conference in Geneva on July 25.

Iran's oil output fell below 3 million barrels a day last month, prompting a 420,000-barrel-a-day fall in Opec's output, the Mees reported.

The weekly quoted unidentified sources as estimating Iran's crude oil production at 2.93 million barrels a day in June, compared with 3.43 million barrels a day in May.

US cities choke in the grip of bankruptcy, expect budget shortfalls

WASHINGTON, July 9. (Reuters): Cities across the United States are racing against the clock to avoid going bankrupt — half of those with populations over 10,000 expect budget shortfalls this year.

The nation's capital city announced last week it could not pay some \$55 million owed to the city pension fund or 30 million owed for local transport. All in all, Washington will be short \$100 million when its financial year ends on Sept 30.

"We've had projected shortfalls before, but nothing like

this," Washington budget office spokesman Willy Lynch told Reuters.

"We are having cash problems because revenues aren't coming in — like cities all over the US, especially on the East Coast," he said.

A survey unveiled this month by the National League of Cities shows Lynch is not alone. Half of America's 576 cities with populations over 10,000 expect budget shortfalls this year, squeezed by falling revenues and rising costs.

Revenues are falling as company profits and sales taxes decline, and cities receive less federal and state money.

Costs are rising for employee health care, transport systems and programmes to fight pollution, drugs, AIDS and poverty.

New York City agonised for months over a predicted \$1.8-billion shortfall in its financial year ending on June 30, 1991. It finally raised income, property and real estate taxes and cut \$240 million in park, library and other public services to close the gap.

Cities blame the administration of former president Ronald Reagan which cut billions of dollars in grants to states and localities.

The \$2.4 billion New York City received from the US government in 1980 provided 19.4 per cent of the city's budget; the 2.7 billion it receives now represents just nine per cent.

The problems stretch from coast to coast. In the West, Los Angeles's deficit prompted a 10 per cent parking tax, doubled garbage collection fees and reduced hiring.

Tough times for customers wanting to hide identity

BERN, Switzerland, July 9, (AP): One of the Swiss banking industry's traditional ways to ensure secrecy for customers will be on its way out if government regulators have their way.

Bankers are balking at federal efforts to abolish the legal possibility for clients to hide their identity behind lawyers and trustees who open accounts in their name.

Efforts to prevent the deposit of shady funds in Switzerland have focussed on restricting the chances of using front men as intermediaries, mainly through clauses in a 1977

self-policing code agreed on by the banks. But regulators say the number of clients guarding anonymity in this way, known as "super banking secrecy," remains higher than they would like.

The Swiss Banking Commission, a government watchdog, toughened its fine late last month by launching a probe to uncover any past abuses by lawyers and trustees.

The move followed the collapse of talks between the commission and the trade associations of Swiss bankers, lawyers and

trustees. Aimed at a voluntary end to super-secrecy, the talks instead brought a long-simmering conflict to a head.

The dispute centres on the Form B clause, added to the self-policing rules in 1982, under which lawyers and trustees pledge in writing that they are not merely acting as no-questions-asked smokecreens for questionable customers.

Daniel Zuberbuehler, vice director of the Banking Commission's secretariat, said he regrets there was no accord to abolish Form

B. But Switzerland's new criminal law against money laundering, which takes effect Aug 1, has emboldened regulators.

They argue Form B is a continuing exception to identification procedures that clashes with the money laundering laws.

"After August 1, every bank would be well advised not to accept any more Form B's," Zuberbuehler said in an interview.

He also urged banks to expose the identity of all account holders protected under exist-

ing Form B's. Legal uncertainty will loom about the new legislation's scope until Swiss courts interpret them through judgements.

And for now it remains unclear whether the commission's probe will lead to a further tightening of Form B procedures.

The government has tried hard in the past decade to keep Swiss banking's image clean. In the most dramatic case, an emergency decree froze the Swiss assets of deposed Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos in

1986 when he allegedly tried to withdraw them. Swiss bankers worry that money clients seeking discretion are turning to Liechtenstein, Switzerland's tiny neighbour, and Luxembourg as alternatives.

The Banking Commission recently estimated that 2 billion francs (\$1.4 billion) have moved into Liechtenstein, though that's modest compared to the more than 2 trillion Swiss francs (\$1.4 trillion) in customer funds managed by Swiss banks.

Peres reaffirms loyalty to Opec

Venezuela sees rise in oil demand

CARACAS, July 9, (Opecna): Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has reaffirmed his country's loyalty to Opec, stating that the organisation was currently facing "only temporary difficulties."

In a nation-wide speech marking Venezuela's independence day, he told his countrymen that Opec's problems were only temporary and indications were that world oil demand would increase.

"The trend for the 1990s is a sustained increase in world (oil) consumption of one million b/d annually, which would guarantee us a process of stabilization in crude prices on the international market."

He stressed: "In that context, I wish to emphatically and unmistakably reaffirm that we will firmly maintain our position as a member of Opec, complying with agreements and sharing responsibility for its strengthening as an instrument for the defence of the interests and rights of oil producing countries, which Venezuela helped form in a very significant way."

Perez pointed out that the national oil company, Petroleos de Venezuela (PDVSA) "is, and will be, the faithful interpreter of that policy, which is the policy of the government I head."

He noted that one of his country's key interests within Opec was to ensure discipline, which meant respect and fulfillment of all agreements reached by the organisation.

"Regarding that situation, we are promoting a summit meeting of heads of state and sovereigns of Opec member countries, which we hope could take place during the course of this year to discuss current and future issues of the oil business and reach definite agreements that would further strengthen the organisation," Perez said.

On other petroleum matters, the Venezuelan President said the nationalisation of Venezuela's iron ore and oil industries 15 years ago were indicative of actions showing the nation's "clear will of sovereignty."

He declared: "We Venezuelans have demonstrated that we are capable of efficiently managing the oil industry." Perez was responsible for nationalising the petroleum industry in 1976 during his first term as president of the country.

"Nothing and nobody will undermine that strong feeling of national sovereignty that has accompanied and will continue to accompany the oil nationalisation process," he affirmed.

Commenting on his government's plans for expansion of the oil industry and the possibility of joint ventures with private national and foreign companies, Perez said the petroleum sector needed technology, international markets and financing.

"Any participation of private capital will be handled within the framework of the nationalised industry," he explained.

In indicating that Venezuela "must cash in" on the fact that it was an oil producer, Perez said: "We cannot use these advantages if we do not turn to sources of financing, because the Venezuelan state simply does not have those thousands of millions of dollars necessary for the full development of the petroleum and petrochemical sectors, or the transformation of natural gas."

The foreign ministers of Opec member states Algeria, Indonesia, Nigeria and Venezuela will jointly visit Iran and other Gulf states next month.

The decision for the visit was made during a summit meeting of the Group of 15 (G-15) foreign ministers held in Kuala Lumpur last month.

US oil firms shifting abroad

NEW YORK, July 9, (Kuna): Oil companies operating in the United States are increasingly shifting their exploration activities abroad, and most of their production and reserves are outside the country, according to a study by the accounting firm Arthur Andersen & Co.

The shift began in 1989 and occurs at a time when the United States is importing about half the oil it consumes. With less focus on domestic exploration, imports will continue to rise, the study said.

Domestic output has fallen 17 per cent or 1.8 million barrels a day since 1986 and could drop an additional 400,000 barrels a day this year, the firm predicted.

Some experts believe the Andersen figures even underestimate the extent of the decline of the American oil industry.

Tapie takes over Adidas

PARIS, July 9, (Renter): Soccer-crazy millionaire Bernard Tapie, renowned in his native France for never saying no to a challenge, has scored the biggest coup of his career by clinching control of the world's leading sports label Adidas.

The flamboyant Tapie, owner of French soccer champion club Olympique de Marseille — based in a city he also represents in Parliament — said he was taking control of the West German firm at a news conference in Rome on Saturday, the eve of the World Cup final.

In his usual confident style, he pledged that the deal would be profitable this year, even though he was taking on a group roughly 15 times bigger than his own and might have to go into debt to rescue Adidas from a world sales slump.

Tapie told the French daily Liberation he had spent months patiently wooing Adidas shareholders before they agreed to transfer 80 per cent of the share capital to Tapie's holding company, Bernard Tapie Finance S.A.

Tapie fought off Japanese, West German and American contenders for control of the group, which has been owned by the Dassler family since it was founded in 1920.

Financial details of the sale were not announced, but sources in Tapie's group said he paid around 2.3 billion francs (\$420 million) for Adidas, which has a consolidated turnover of 4.6 billion marks (\$2.8 billion).

Tapie himself, accustomed to paying enormous sums of money for his successes, announced he had clinched the deal for an "amazingly low" price. Trade in Bernard Tapie Finance was temporarily suspended on the Paris bourse this morning to cool down the market after a sharp rise in the company's shares.

Through its Swiss-based subsidiary ISI, Adidas controls the marketing of the World Cup, the Olympic Games and other major sporting events. Tapie already hopes to wield his new-found influence to push for France to host the 1998 World Cup — the 1994 event has been awarded to the United States.

The self-made millionaire made his sporting debut in 1984, when he set up a cycling team, getting the riders he wanted by offering previously unheard-of rewards.

He helped transform cycling into a top-sport spot which now boasts its own fair share of millionaire competitors.

His next goal was to turn ailing Olympique de Marseille into a leading light in European soccer. He paid \$7 million to recruit England attacker Chris Waddle, then added Brazilian Carlos Mozer and Uruguayan Carlos Francisco to his new line-up, and even tried to tempt Argentine star Diego Maradona from Italian club Naples.

In a recent television debate, he took on extreme right-wing leader Jean-Marie Le Pen, whose popularity has confounded the political establishment, and won a bruising verbal battle.

Rush to privatize

Asian airline industry booms

By John Miller

JAKARTA, Indonesia, July 9, (WNL): The Asian airline industry is taking off, but some of its most seasoned pilots want out. Feeling ill-equipped to guide their fleets into the coming traffic boom, national governments which once controlled nearly all the region's major airlines are dashing for the exits.

Beginning with the partial sale of a rebounding Malaysian Airlines in 1985, countries in East and Southeast Asia have been selling shares in their flag carriers to an assortment of eager buyers. Because, or in spite of the promise of record-breaking growth, the rush to privatize is on.

The phenomenon is not limited to the dragons of Asia. Argentina, Brazil, Pakistan and Turkey are exploring privatization options. European national airlines went increasingly private during the 1980s, and now more than a dozen Latin American governments are reportedly looking into the possibility of getting out — or at least partly out — of the airline business.

But along the Pacific rim the drive to privatize has a slightly different flavour. While most of the world will see substantial increases in air traffic, eastern Asia expects to more than double its passenger load over the next 10 years. So it's not a matter of dividing up the pie; there is a whole new pie in the oven, and the region wants to be ready for it.

The road to divestment has not always been smooth. The decision to partially privatize Thai Airways, formally announced in late April of this year, was preceded by months of bitter infighting. In the case of Philippine Airlines, a general confusion about the value and credit-worthiness of the company has delayed privatization plans since the government made known its intention to sell in 1987. Philippine officials hope to have the company in private hands by 1991.

In Indonesia, where the economy is opening up to market forces and where the state owns the sole international carrier as well as its major domestic "competitor," persistent talk of going private has elicited testily if sometimes less than convincing denials from government planners.

But even in Jakarta where officials consider air transport to be a pillar of national development, some degree of privatization appears inevitable. A reshuffling in the local industry, in which an expansion-minded Garuda Indonesia Airlines will be handing most of its domestic routes to its subsidiary, Merpati Nusantara Airlines, over the next two years, is apparently designed to streamline the flag carrier in anticipation of increased competition from private foreign "mega-carriers."

The change, which some see as a first step toward privatization, is an acknowledgement of the need for maximum flexibility and efficiency in the face of exploding markets. "Airlines must convince governments that they will serve their countries best by operating as part of the private sector," says Moehamad Soeparno, Garuda's president,



Moehamad Soeparno

Soeparno, who is also president of the Geneva-based, 187-airline-strong International Air Transport Association, is a believer in free enterprise, and has been pushing for less regulation, less protection, more access to markets and a large private sector role in the airline business.

But Soeparno hedges when asked if Garuda's future is divorced from government. He says that for now he is content to try to convince the government to call on private companies to help Garuda address its most pressing needs: new airports, runways, terminals and planes.

"The opportunity is there," he said. "The Asia-Pacific has become the fastest growing area, but the problem we are facing now is infrastructure, and infrastructure is still developed by the government. The difference between the private sector and the government is that we in the private sector want to take the opportunity as quickly as possible."

"The thinking is that private enterprises will be profit-driven and efficiency-conscious," explains Professor Fermin A. La Rosa, an industry observer at the Asian Institute of Management in Manila. "If a company is owned by private people, they tend to care more about how it fares."

"It's no different from other industries," agrees Ibrahim Taip, secretary-general of the Orient Airlines Association, a consortium of 14 of the region's largest airlines. "With the state-controlled corporations there seems to be a problem in moving forward."

That's not an easy message for governments to hear. "It's like with perestroika (in the Soviet

Defence industry transition difficult

GENEVA, July 9, (Kuna): As the perception of a military threat weakens in the industrialised countries, the highest challenge facing policy planners in the current climate of super-power accommodation is how to convert, with the least social disruption, the military-industrial complex of nations to civil production.

A study by the International Labour Office (ILO) points out that dismantling the defence industries will require careful advance planning to avoid sudden displacement of millions of workers in defence-related plants.

While billions of dollars spent on production of weapons of destruction will be related for investment on development, the transition will also bring temporary social pains.

The total defence outlay of the world's nations is enormous, the ILO observes, averaging some \$1,900,000 a minute, and an estimated 55 million jobs are sustained by the defence budget.

Even partial disarmament would involve displacement of a segment of this massive labour force, so the question is how can these workers be found alternative employment in other sectors of the economy or will they be forced to join the ranks of the world's unemployed.

Extensive research by the ILO has come up with some answers: While there may be some disruptions in the short-term, the long-term impact of disarmament will benefit the whole community. But it would take time for the full impact the resources released by disarmament and diverted to development, to be fully felt.

Further, if past experience is any guide, for every 100 workers displaced by defence plant closures, at least 15 would not rejoin the labour market, either through early retirement or other factors.

Of the remaining workers, some 33 per cent would have found lower paid jobs within two or three years, 18 per cent would still be unemployed and only 33 per cent would have found a job as good or even better than before.

Defence-related unemployment in manufacturing in six of the world's major military powers gives a comparative idea of the number of jobs at risk when disarmament becomes a reality.

In the United States, some 1.8 million workers were employed in such industries in 1985, in the United Kingdom about 410,000 (1986-87), in France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and Belgium, those engaged in military equipment production ranged from 400,000 to 23,000, and in the USSR, the numbers are at least 6 million.

Further, significant disarmament will inevitably reduce output in ship-building, aircraft, missiles, ordnance and some branches of communications. The ILO says that viewed against this backdrop of a labour force, with relatively higher, but specialised skills, higher wages, perhaps lower productivity, it is possible that the employment impact of disarmament could be greater than many expect.

It poses an extremely difficult challenge to labour market policies and institutions, to trade unions and worker management relations.

Transfer

While the high average level of qualifications of defence workers should make their transfer to civilian jobs easier, their often narrow specialisation can also make the shift more difficult. Their reintegration into the civilian labour market can be eased through enlightened strategies with special emphasis on vocational guidance, training, job placement and other labour market policies.

But, however active the authorities are in job creation and in providing various services, a sizeable share of displaced workers is likely to remain unemployed. A further sizeable share, the ILO notes, will find their skills either unwanted or remunerated more poorly than before.

Abuses rampant in thrift bailout plan

Insurance executive's purchase of S-and-L worst misuse

NEW YORK, July 9, (AP): An Arizona insurance executive who controlled a company that pleaded guilty to fraud in 1976 was allowed to buy 15 failed Texas thrifts with borrowed money in 1988 and was promised \$1.85 billion in federal subsidies, it was reported yesterday.

Congressional investigators said the 1988 arrangement that permitted Phoenix businessman James Fail to buy the Savings and Loan Associations was the worst abuse found in the federal thrift bailout programme, — the New York Times reported.

Citing government documents, the Times said Fail bought the insolvent thrifts using only \$1,000 of his own money and \$70 million in loans, some from outside sources and some

from his own insurance company.

Fail then consolidated the 15 S-and-L into the first \$250 million of federal payments pledged over the next decade, became the most profitable S-and-L in the nation in 1989, the Times said.

Senator Howard Metzenbaum, Democrat of Ohio, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which has scheduled a hearing on the deal, blasted the arrangement that created Dallas-based Bluebonnet.

"In all my years in public office, I have never seen such an abandonment of public responsibility as in the S-and-L deals in 1988, and the Bluebonnet deal is an abomination, the worst case we have found," Metzenbaum

told the Times.

The head of the federal home loan bank board at the time of the Bluebonnet deal, M. Danny Wall, and other officials former agency officials maintained in interviews that there was nothing improper in the way they handled the sale, the Times said.

Fail declined to be interviewed before going on a business trip to Europe, the Times said.

The Times report said investigators on Metzenbaum's anti-trust, monopolies and business rights subcommittee were looking into a number of aspects of the deal, including:

Why the bidding process involving fail was concluded quickly.

'Devil dogs' comfort the lonely

Pets As Therapy is catching on in Britain

By Claire Lockhart

THE old lady faces the approaching dog with caution—for this is a Rottweiler, the breed that has become infamous after several headline-making attacks on innocent people.

Yet within seconds they are the best of friends she is petting the friendly animal and it is obviously enjoying the attention.

In the unlikely surroundings of an old people's home, the Rottweiler's owner is proving the breed, labelled "devil dogs" by some people, has a gentle side that can help comfort to humans, along with the other less-controversial breeds which are now a familiar sight in hospitals and old folk's homes.

Pets As Therapy dog visiting schemes were devised by Lesley Scott Ordish of the national charity PRO dogs and now almost 5,000 PAT dogs make regular visits round the hospital wards including five Rottweilers.

"We have to be terrible cautious about dogs with an image like the Rottweiler," Lesley told me. "But the ones we use are beautiful and totally reliable."

"We have to go to see the staff of the hospital first and make sure the dog is wanted. And some people will pull away."

"We also have a number of German Shepherds. People do not like these big, strong breeds very much. So you do not force them onto anyone."

"We just take them into the day room and the people who want to talk to these dogs, do so. And when they start to stroke the dog, the others will say, 'OK, let's see him, then.' And you win people over the way the dog and the owner behave."

Pets As Therapy started in 1983 after Lesley received calls from elderly people going into homes because of declining health who would have to give up their dogs.

"They would be very unhappy because they couldn't cope any longer. Their dogs might have been the only thing keeping them going, making them go out for walks, taking them to the vet, when they had to feed the animal, feeding themselves."

"So the one thing this old person would need was their dog. And it was being taken away. And I thought, 'this is wrong. I've got to do something about this.'"

"So I phoned some of the homes and I didn't have any joy. And we couldn't take all these old dogs because if they only have a short time to live, they start to get all kinds of problems as well. It's heartbreaking."

Lesley had set up PRO dogs back in 1976 — to improve recognition of the importance of



Rottweilers, labelled 'devil dogs' by some people, have a gentle side that can help bring comfort to humans.

dogs for the benefit of humans — and realised the charity's thousands of members would be too glad to share their pets with hospital patients and the elderly. "All these owners were fed up to the back teeth of all this talk of dogs being a danger and a nuisance," she told me. "We love our dogs and it's very sad to have all this bad publicity. And I thought, 'may be they would share their dogs. How can we devise a scheme whereby we who love our dogs can share them with people who are lonely and miss dogs in their life.'"

The thousands of volunteers, who come from all walks of life, make regular visits with their PAT dog and could find nothing more rewarding than the welcome they get at the homes and

hospitals. Lesley told me: "I can go into a day room and the patients are expressionless. They don't talk and they don't move. But take a dog in and all of a sudden everybody comes to life. You visit everybody and they pat the dog and you leave them all talking. It's wonderful, the difference it makes."

"It's terribly important to people who have nobody to visit them. It is quite frightful how we abandon our old people in this country."

"We've had dying patients asking for the PAT dog to come because it is the only regular visitor they have. And the dogs love it. They can't get in the car fast enough when they know it's visiting day."

"We couldn't choose them unless they were going to enjoy it. They have to be friendly dogs who go to the vet and enjoy meeting people. They have to be clean and vaccinated and of the right temperament."

There are 4,728 registered PAT dogs at present. "We didn't really have too much difficulty in getting volunteers among our very caring members," said Lesley. "They even paid the £5 to register their dog... to make ends meet."

"It's a whole new area of volunteers. People who wouldn't have thought of doing voluntary work but, because they love their dogs and are proud of them, they're willing to offer them and then they start to get very

involved in some of these homes.

"Where it was difficult was getting enough homes to accept the idea. They were terribly cautious. Two years later, in 1985, the Royal College of Nursing heard about the scheme and invited me to talk about it because it was so unusual. From that point on, we were taken seriously and that's when we started getting requests for the visits."

Lesley remembers an old lady at Stoke Mandeville hospital, Buckinghamshire, who had given up the will to live. "She wasn't eating. She wasn't interested in anything. Then one of our collies was on the ward one day and the staff suddenly realised that was what she might respond to."

"They took the dog to see her and that was the turning point. And after several regular visits, she started to eat again and came back to life. She had the will to live again, something had interested her."

The approach is gentle all round. "We don't want to disturb anyone if they're nodding off as we come into the room with the dog. But then the next time you go in with the dog, you'll get told off because they missed it! So it's much better just to gently ask them if they want to see the dog rather than have them wake up and have missed it."

Matching supply to demand is still a problem. "We have coordinators but we can't afford to pay them. We've got to get to the stage where we can afford to, because volunteers are wonderful but there is only so much you can ask of them."

"It's totally undervalued at the moment until people see how it works. There is not another animal that does so much for people. And medical studies are showing the health benefit. Some of our dogs are prescribed for people now. The consultants are asking us to take our dogs to treat patients who are phobic."

"And we do it in a lower-key way on our visits to schools. We ask children who are a little scared of dogs to put their hand up. And we ask them to pat and we tell them to always ask the owner first."

There's nothing more rewarding than seeing a child 'risking' stroking the dog. I think we're nipping many a phobia in the bud."

Now Pets As Therapy is extending to rabbits and cats too—sharing the joys and rewards of owning a pet with people who have no other visitors.

But it's hard to believe there are people in Britain who are looking forward to their encounter with a Rottweiler.



Lesley Scott Ordish, like thousands of members of PRO dogs, shares the joys of being a pet owner with hospital patients and the elderly.

FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

Hernia needs to be repaired before problem occurs

QUESTION: I'm writing on behalf of my boyfriend. He says he has a hernia but refuses to go see a doctor about it. Over the years it has gotten bigger and is now the size of a softball. He believes as long as he can push it back he'll be all right. Please give me any information you have, because I don't know anything about the subject at all.

ANSWER: It's obvious from your letter that your boyfriend doesn't have a clear understanding of his condition either. And he may not be the only one, as hernias are quite common in the general population, with about 15 people out of 1,000 bothered by the problem.

A hernia occurs when a loop of bowel or intestines pushes through an abnormal opening. The most common is the "indirect" hernia, which accounts for 50 per cent to 75 per cent of all hernias. This type cases, the gut pushes through a weak point in the sheet of tissue that lines the inner abdominal wall (the abdominal fascia) and passes through a canal into the scrotum. Although there may be few symptoms, the swelling is easily noticed, and as the opening becomes larger, the hernia may seem to grow.

When the intestines push through the wall of the abdomen as a result of a weakness, producing a bulge in the groin area, it is termed a "direct" hernia and is most frequently in men over the age of 40. Although these bulges may be pushed back easily, or held place with belts, the danger lies in a complication of hernias known as "incarceration," where the gut becomes stuck in the position, and may require emergency surgery to correct the situation. These incarcerations may cause the circulation to the trapped intestines to become blocked, in which case the

bowel becomes "strangulated," tissue can easily die, and become a life-threatening situation.

Repair of the hernia is the answer, and it's one of the most common surgical procedures performed. Your boyfriend will need a bit of time for recuperation after the operation, two to three months while the surgery heals, during which activities will gradually be increased from walking to full exercise. Question: I have had to return to my eye doctor three times because the glasses he gave me did not work. Each time he has re-examined, and I see perfectly well with the lenses he uses in his machine, but the glasses that I get a week later don't help as much. Do you think he is using the right lenses, or does my long-time diabetes have something to do with it?

ANSWER: I'm sure your doctor is prescribing the same power lenses for your glasses as he is using in his "machine." I'm hoping that he is aware of your diabetes, either because he obtained that knowledge by taking your medical history, or because you volunteered that vital bit of information to him as you did to me. That would put any doctor on the alert to two possible causes for your visual problems.

The most likely, I believe, is that your diabetes is not well controlled (extremely possible if your medications include insulin and you do not monitor your own blood sugar). The excess of glucose in your blood can change the power of the lens in your eye, which changes as your blood glucose levels change, making the glasses ineffective. The other possibility is that the diabetes has affected your retina, a cause that is evident on careful examination. Put your medical doctor and your eye doctor in touch with one another and save some return trips to the office.

Twin Peaks outbeats Dynasty

Misty, murky, kinky soap

A NEW smouldering and kinky Hollywood soap, that makes the cowering of *Dallas* and *Dynasty* look as innocent as Bambi, is about to burst on Britain's TV screens.

Twin Peaks, the steamy story of everyday life in a hick town, which includes murder, rape, torture, pornography, drugs and illicit sex, is earning mega-ratings in America.

So many people are glued to their sets every Thursday night, when the sexy soap is frothing, that the makers of rival channel blockbuster *Cheers* are shaking in their Gucci shoes.

Fans are riveted to the goings-on in the seemingly respectable town on a lake in the backwoods of Washington State. *Twin Peaks* looks all homespun and mom's apple pie... until a local beauty queen, 17-year-old Laura Palmer (Sherry Lee) is brutally murdered.

And not only murdered, either. Her nude body emerges from the waters of a lake wrapped in a clear, plastic shroud. When another local teenager is found wandering, viciously tortured, local Sheriff Harry S. Truman and an oddball FBI agent start to investigate. And they lift the lid on the dark side of folksy *Twin Peaks*, where everybody seems to be having affairs with everybody else. And more, much more.

Teenager prisoners in the town's jail howl like wolves, cocaine is dealt without shame, there are overtones of black magic, and pornography is rampant. Even the local psychiatrist appears to be barking mad.

A spokesman for the giant ABC network, which has gleefully ordered another 26 episodes of the soap, said: "Laura's grisly murder sends shock waves through *Twin Peaks*."

"It strips away the veneer of respectable gentility to expose seething undercurrents of illicit passion, greed and jealousy in a population of unusual

characters. "The search for the murderer leads to the shattering discovery that no-one is quite what they appear to be, and almost everyone has something to hide. It uncovers many busy secrets in *Twin Peaks*."

Actor Michael Ontkean, who plays the laid-back sheriff, told me: "Twin Peaks is just five miles from the Canadian border. I was born in Canada and spent a lot of time in places like *Twin Peaks*. As soon as I read the script, I got that shock of recognition. "A lot of towns I know have this feel and this look. They run deep. We as human beings are all pretty fascinating. We have a lot of depths, heights and widths."

And the script of what is rapidly becoming a cult series exploits every quirk and kink of its characters. It is firmly stamped with the trademark of writer and director David Lynch.

He directed some of the kinkiest love scenes ever shown in the cinema in the movie *Blue Velvet*. In this, a man is seduced at knifepoint and another has sex



Bobby Briggs (left) takes Laura Palmer off from an affair to chat to jallow student Gary Harshberger (Mike Nelson).



Hot on the trail of a murderer, Sheriff Harry S. Truman (Michael Ontkean) and FBI agent Dale Cooper (Kyle MacLachlan).

while gulping oxygen from a mask. The BBC has paid £280,000 for the first seven episodes of *Twin Peaks*, and plans to launch it this autumn. British viewers will see villainy that makes the machinations of *Dallas*'s J.R. Ewing look as innocent as Mickey Mouse.

And Joan Collins, arch schemer of *Dynasty*, wouldn't live five minutes with super-bitch Catherine Martel (Piper Laurie) who plots to take the local sawmill away from its owner, beautiful



Something is cooking at the local diner...boss Norma Jennings (Peggy Lipton) is having an affair with the gas station man.

Josie Packard (Joan Chen). Benjamin is loathed by his precociously sexy daughter Audrey (Sherry Fenn). Her role is described: "She believes in the goodness of people, but has much more fun bringing out the bad in them."

Meanwhile, down at the dinner, things other than hamburgers are cooking. Waitress Shelly Johnson (Madchen Amick) is having a spot of adultery with young Bobby Briggs, the murdered girl's ex-lover.

Her roughneck husband Leo, in between beating her up, does a few cocaine deals with Bobby (Dana Ashbrook). And the last count, Leo wasn't having an illicit affair with anybody. Which makes him something of an eccentric in *Twin Peaks*.

But Shelly's boss Norman Jennings (Peggy Lipton) slips between the sheets with gas station owner Ed Hurley (Everett McGill) while her husband Hank languishes in jail.

Bunnies plague

Australia seeks 'rabbit free zone'

SYDNEY, Australia, (AP): Thomas Austin got an award 130 years ago when he started raising rabbits for hunting in Australia. Today's farmers and scientists would like to give him a swift kick.

Richard Downward, a senior adviser at South Australia's state Animal and Plant Control Commission, calls rabbits "the most serious environmental pest we have today in temperate Australia," an area that encompasses the southern two-thirds of the country.

In addition, the rabbits eat up so much vegetation that the wool and cattle industries are hard-pressed to expand their flocks.

"The cost is not just in lost agricultural production," said Ivan Nolan, who has spent 25 years at the Keith Turnbull Research Institute in Victoria state to develop weapons against rabbits.

"Rabbits cause or contribute to soil erosion, increasing salinity, loss of top soil, poor water quality, silting of streams and dams, and the destruction of trees, as well as wildlife."

"They are very efficient grazing animals and can destroy the quality of a pasture quickly," said John Burley, another Animal and Plant Control Commission adviser.

Although rabbits have not reached the plague proportions that devastated large tracts of pasture and other land in past decades, some experts believe urgent action is needed now to keep their numbers in check.

"We don't want people to wait for a quick-fix solution," said Roger Fryer of the government's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisa-

tion. Many scientists believe it will be impossible to eradicate rabbits. But researchers like Nolan fervently hope that's not the case.

"If we can put people on the moon, we can get rid of the rabbit," he said. "My goal is to be able to put a sign along Victoria's borders: 'this is a rabbit free zone.'"

He estimates his state alone has 25 million rabbits, nearly outnumbering the 28 million sheep. Since eight rabbits eat as much as one sheep, Nolan figures the sheep population could be boosted by two million to three million if rabbits were wiped out.

The first rabbits arrived in Australia in 1788 from Europe. But it wasn't until 1859, when Austin introduced them to the Savannah woodland of Victoria state for game, that they found ideal surroundings and started to multiply in earnest.

Four years later, a fire burned down the fences retaining one colony. By 1886 the rabbits had crossed New South Wales state, spreading at a rate of about 100 kilometres (70 miles) per year.

At first, rabbits still weren't seen as a threat, and trappers found the fur business lucrative. Then farmers began complaining about the ravages to the pastures that they spent so much to see for sheep and cattle. They built great walls of chicken wire, poisoned rabbits and fumigated their burrows with deadly gases.

In the peak post-World War II years, hunters and trappers caught 100 million rabbits a year and produced up to seven million kilograms (15.4 million pounds) of rabbit skins for export annually.

The problem was that even if 80 per cent of the rabbits were killed in one area, the survivors could multiply fast enough to recover their numbers in a year. In theory, one pair could produce 2,000 descendants in 12 months.

The first breakthrough came when myxomatosis was successfully introduced in 1950, initially killing 99.9 per cent of the rabbits infected with the mosquito-spread virus, which is not fatal to other animals. Within three years, the increase in annual wool production was estimated at 30 million kilograms (66 million pounds).

But rabbits began developing greater resistance to the disease, which was mutating into less-lethal strains, and the 1960s brought a new plague of bunnies breeding across the country again.

Scientists then introduced the European flea, which was more efficient than mosquitoes in transmitting the most virulent forms of myxomatosis.

But the fleas were not effective in the arid outback, and the rabbits also continued developing stronger resistance. As many as 75 per cent living in moist areas now survive the disease.

Still, the Animal and Plant Control Commission recently received quarantine approval to bring in Spanish flea, which will be able to spread myxomatosis to rabbits in the outback, where resistance to the disease remains low.

Scientists will be breeding the fleas in Adelaide and hope to begin releasing them by late next year or early 1992.

Measuring in centimetres Parts of my body

Ask your friend to help you find the answers.
Use a piece of string and your centimetre ruler.



Round my forehead measures cm
The length of my nose is cm
Round my neck measures cm
The length of my forearm is cm
The length of my arm is cm
Round my wrist measures cm
Round my waist measures cm
From my knee to the sole of my foot is cm
My foot is cm long.
My whole body is cm long.

Things to find out.

I take these sizes: hat or cap

shirt or blouse.....shorts.....gloves.....

socks.....shoes.....

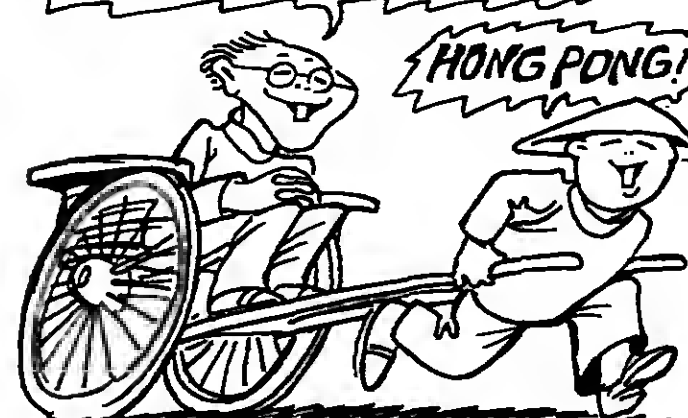
tall
short
average

Mummy says I am medium for my age.

small
big (Cross out the wrong words)



WHAT IS THE SMELLIEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD?



Just for laughs!

'Once when I was shipwrecked,' said the teller of tall stories, 'I lived on a tin of sardines for a week!'

'Really?' yawned a bored listener, 'I'm surprised you didn't fall off.'

The school party was assembled for a day trip to Calais. 'Harris,' said the Headmaster, 'we must all be very careful on the ferry going over to France. If one of the boys falls overboard — what do you do?'

'I shout "boy overboard!"', sir.

'Good. And what do you do if a teacher falls overboard?'

'Er — which one, sir?'

On board the liner in mid-Atlantic a nervous passenger was being comforted by a steward. 'There's nothing to worry about, madam,' he said soothingly. 'After all, we're only two miles from land.'

'Only two miles?'

'Yes. Straight down!'

'I hope this plane doesn't travel faster than sound,' said the old lady to the stewardess.

'Why?'

'Because my friend and I want to talk, that's why.'

Charlie always takes his holidays in March. He says he likes to get in early while the sheets are still clean...

'I tried surf-riding while I was in Australia.'

'How did you get on?'

'Not very well. I couldn't get the horse near the water.'

It was an extremely rough channel crossing from Weymouth to Jersey, and one wretched green-faced passenger was hugging the rail when a steward approached him.

'Lunch, sir?' asked the tactless steward.

Happy birthday



Ivan Fernandes turned 6 on July 3



Hazniya Cutfilan turned 4 on July 8



Kharram Goandal turned 2 on June 29



Mahima Kamath turns 7 on July 18.

Kamchatka Peninsula at the eastern end of the USSR has 20 geysers spouting steam and water, and over 60 active volcanoes.

Before entering a Japanese home, visitors remove their shoes.

Among the organs of a dead ostrich in the London Zoo were found two handkerchiefs, three gloves, a film spool, part of a plastic comb, an alarm clock winding key, part of a rolled gold necklace, two collar studs and a Belgian franc piece.

According to folklore, the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland was built by a giant, Finn MacCool. Geologists, however, believe that the odd formation is a result of molten lava going through a process of rapid cooling which caused the lava to crack into these strange formations.

The most dangerous fires for firemen to handle are those where rubber and cork are burning.

Monaco has a greater proportion of the population with telephones than any other country, 965 per 1000 of the population.

The poorest people in the world are the Tasaday tribe of cave-dwellers of central Mindanao, the Philippines, who live without any domesticated animals, agriculture, pottery, wheels or clothes.

Bumping foreheads with a handshake is the traditional greeting in Tibet.

The first parking meters installed were those in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in July 1935.

In the United States nearly one quarter of the foods that are produced eventually spoil.

In Japan, social bathing is a relaxing event, and indoor "pools" are really huge bathtubs.

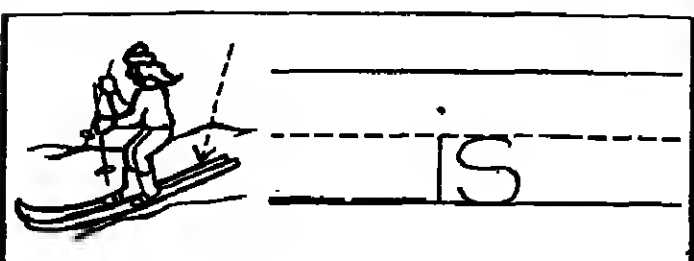
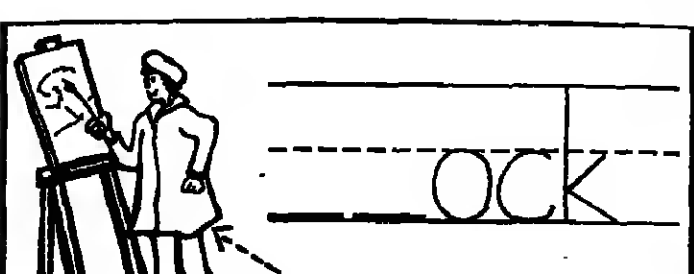
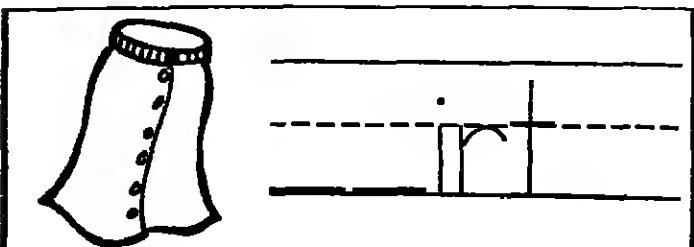
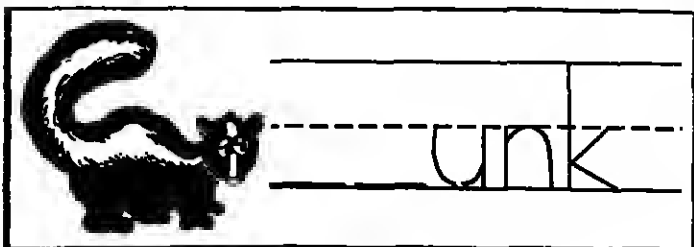
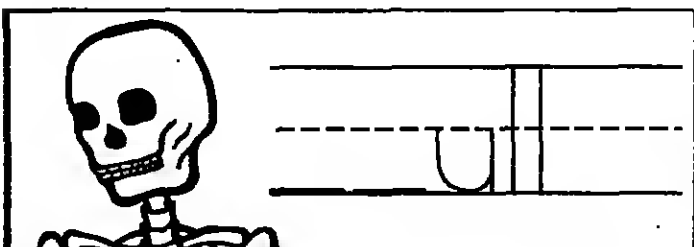
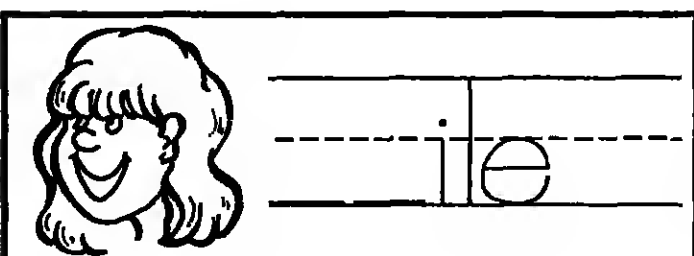
Male mosquitoes do not bite, only the females.

If you had fifteen books on a shelf and you arranged them in every possible combination, and if you made one change every minute, it would take you 2,487,996 years to do them all.

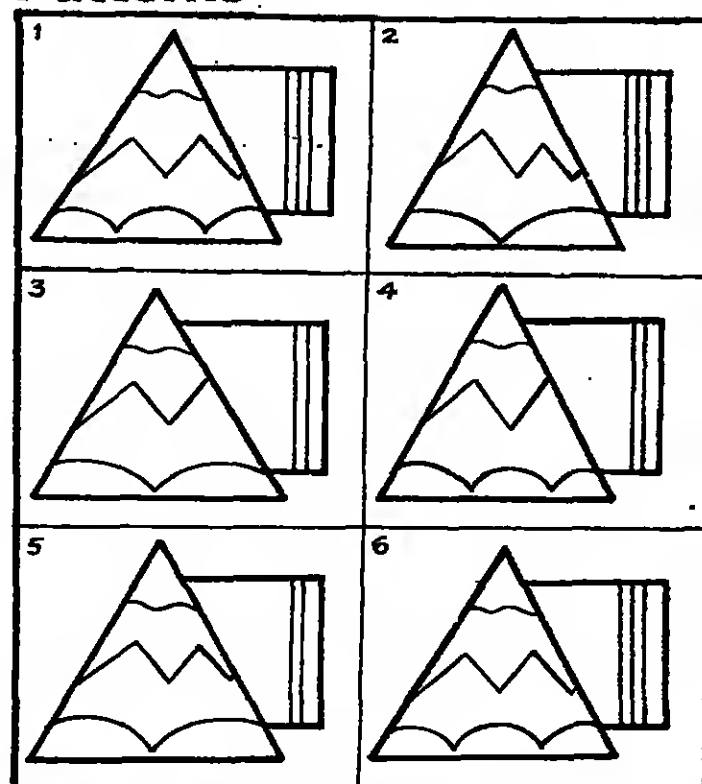
The cricketer C.B. Fry once hit a ball into the fork of a tree. It was visible, and therefore not a lost ball. By the time they'd got a ladder, he had made sixty-six runs off one ball.

A mouse cannot live in a very cold country as it would lose too much heat from its skin. In a really cold place the smallest mammal is a fox.

Print the two-letter blend you hear at the beginning of the words. Color the pictures.

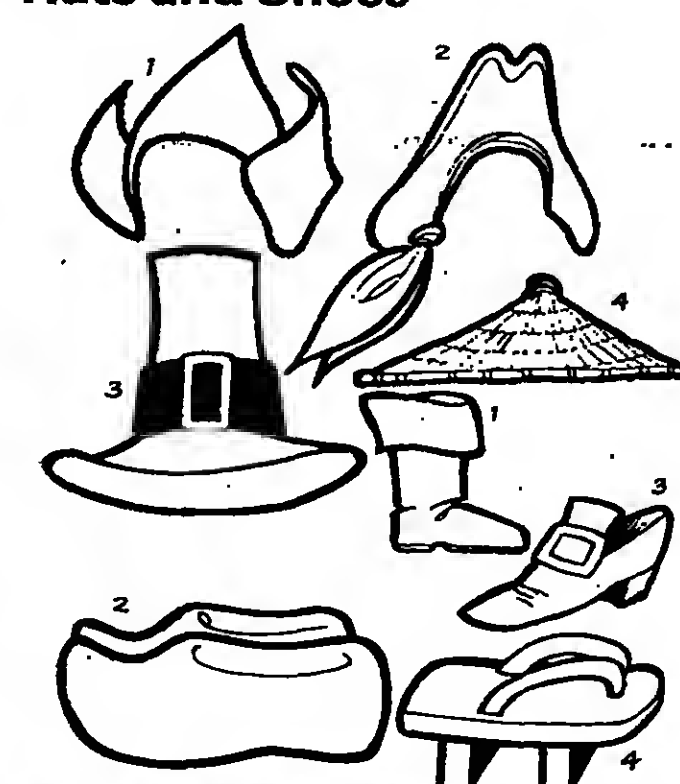


Patterns



Which two patterns are the same?

Hats and Shoes



Match the hats with the right shoes.



You will need large cardboard boxes from the supermarket.

To make a car just draw wheels, doors and lights on the outside of the box. Use thick felt tip pens, crayons or paint. Invent a number plate!

Make a train by sticking several large boxes together.



You could stick on smaller boxes and cartons for funnels, paper plates or circles of coloured paper for wheels, cheese boxes for buffers and cotton wool for steam.

Here I come in my old steam train!
It doesn't mind getting wet in the rain.
Puffing under bridges,
Chuffing up and down,
Blowing lots of steam about
All over town.

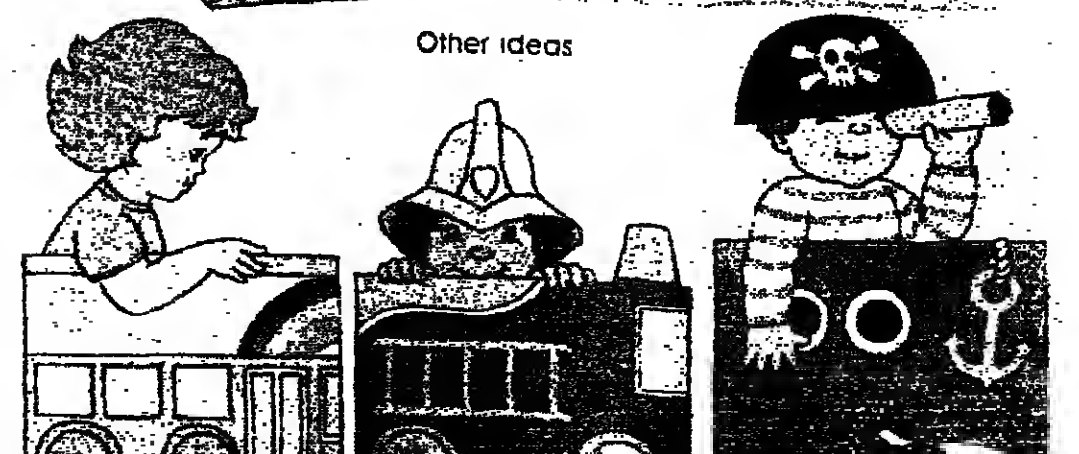
Sue Raffe



Look at my car
as it whizzes past.
I'm driving it ever so,
ever so fast.
I toot on my horn
And I turn the wheel,
My car does a skid
And the tyres squeal!

Sue Raffe

Other ideas



During the hours of darkness bodily functions slow down and body temperatures

If you sleep late, even if you wake up late, you are very likely to still feel tired. This is

from the disturbance of the sleep cycle. Hence, if you want to prepare for an energetic day full of fun and liveliness, I advise you to be in bed by 8:00 pm.

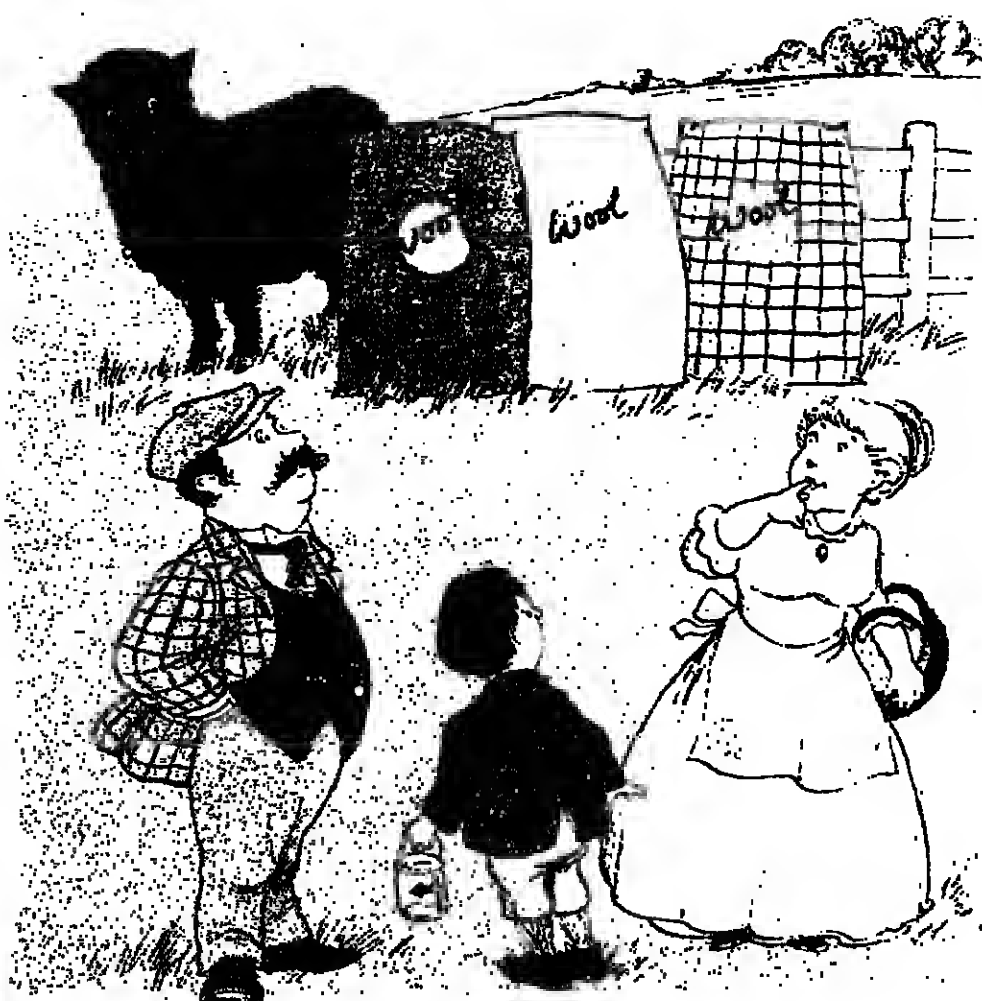
Manoal

"PRE"-FIXES

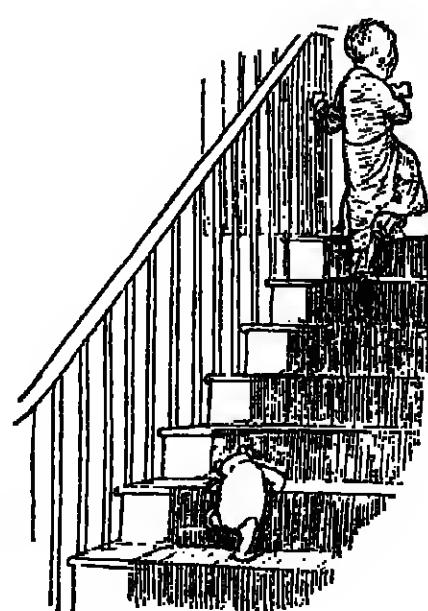
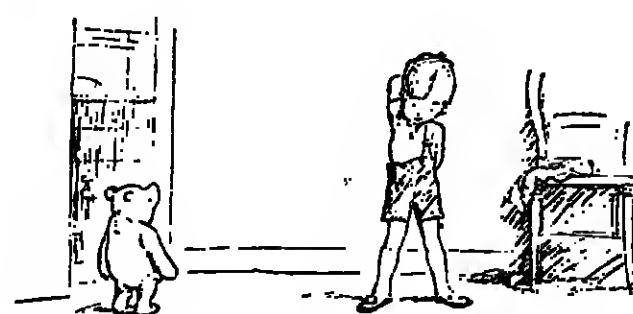
All 35 words in this puzzle use the prefix "pre." It's an interesting exercise and an education in word forms as well. Good luck!



Draw a line to match each person with his or her bag of wool.



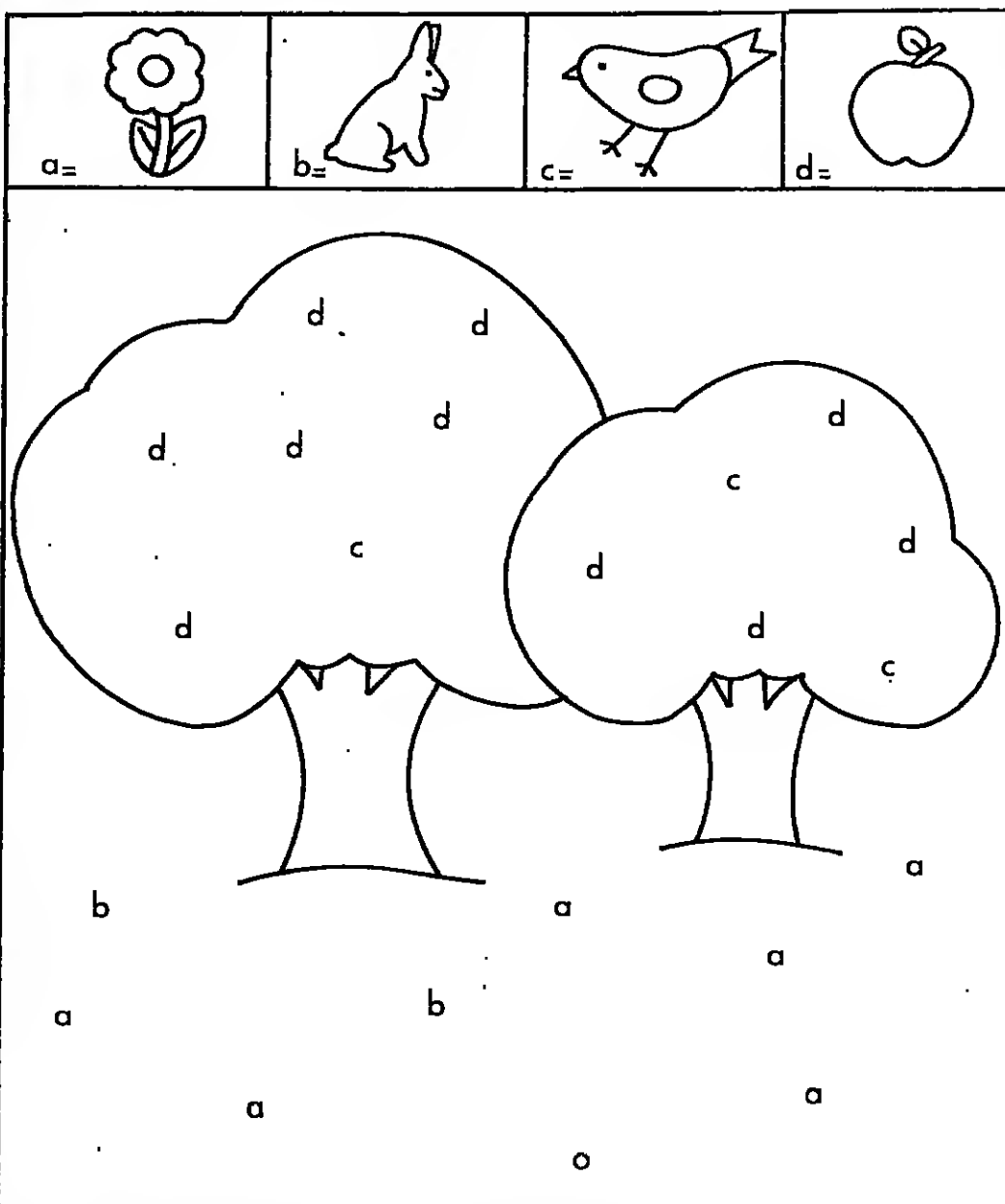
The first car journey from Land's End to John o' Groats was made in 1897 by Henry Sturmev. It took him 93 1/2 hours driving time to cover the 1500 km, making an average speed of just under 16 km/h.



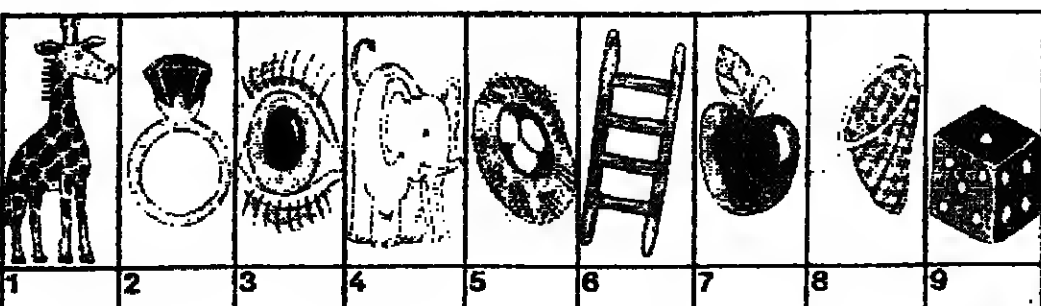
My name is Billy the Bird, and I'll show you how to take care of yourself.



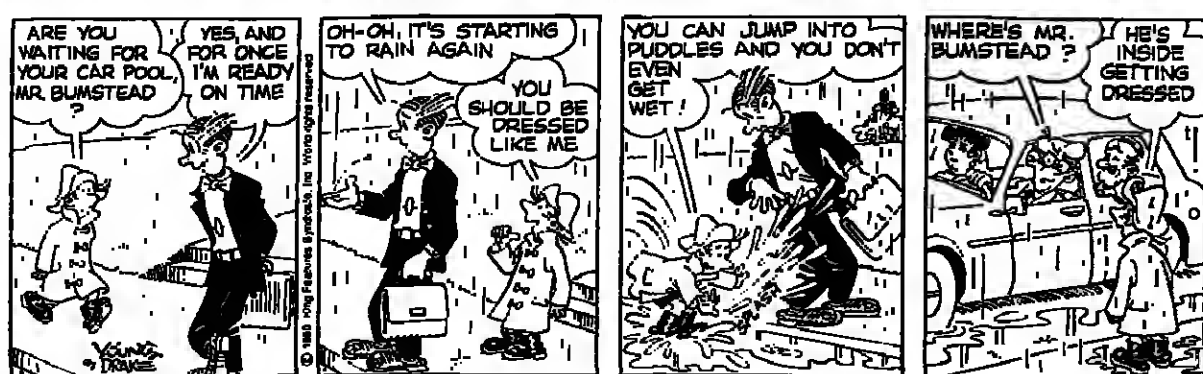
Complete the picture, using the code to help you.



Write the first letter of the name of each object to find out which is the largest island in the world.



BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By D.M. Brown



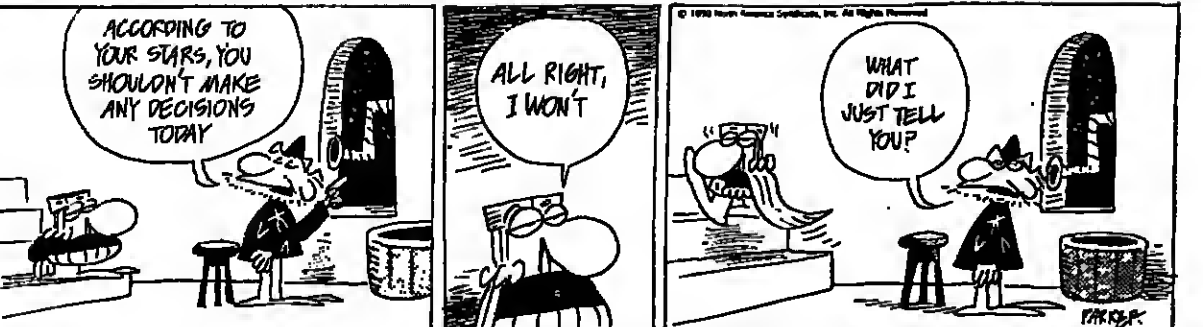
AGATHA CRUMM — By D.M. Brown



BEETLE BAILEY



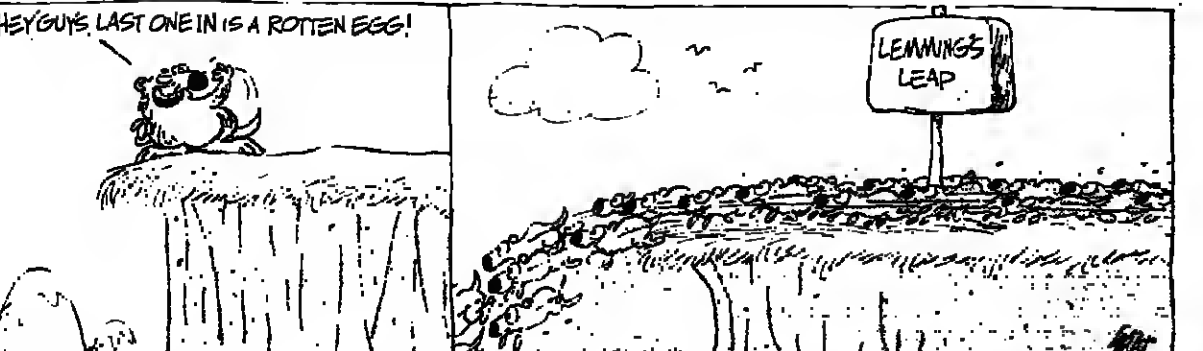
THE WIZARD OF ID — By Frank Harker & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP



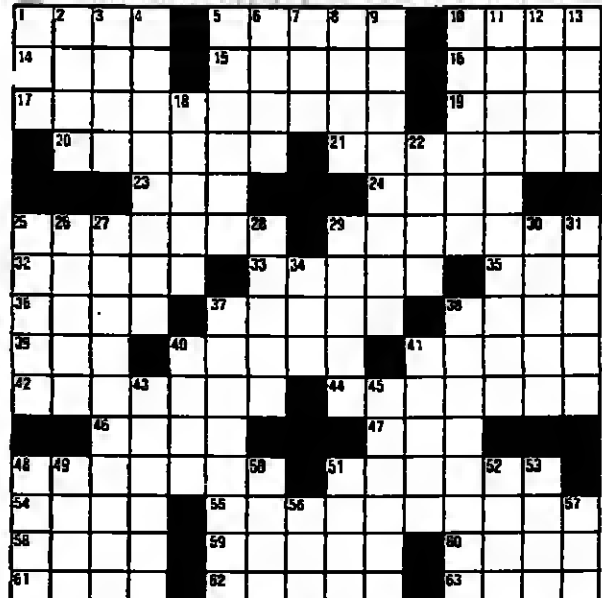
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Mexican treat
 - 5 Artist's color
 - 10 Tourist site in India
 - 14 Baseball's motto
 - 15 Worked diligently
 - 16 Senior's dance
 - 17 Gold medalist for swimming: 1988 Olympics
 - 19 Jacob's son
 - 20 Iterate
 - 21 Moe and Curly
 - 23 Feedbag morsel
 - 24 Metric foot
 - 25 Ranuncus
 - 29 Disallowed
 - 32 Norman, Frances and King
 - 33 Sounds from a haunted house
 - 35 Capek classic
 - 36 Tourist stopovers
 - 37 Breeding place
 - 38 Laurel
 - 39 Contend
 - 40 Quarter —, 9:45
 - 41 Duplicate
 - 42 Location of a famous airport
 - 44 One-se-Jaco fruit
 - 46 Of an important period
 - 47 Trygve of United Nations fame
 - 48 Regards highly
 - 51 Part of the crankcase
 - 54 Captain of the Pequod
 - 55 Gold medalist for relay racing: 1988 Olympics
- DOWN**
- 2 Crewmen
 - 25 Full of animation
 - 26 River in S. Nigeria
 - 27 Gold medalist for swimming: 1988 Olympics
 - 28 Hit
 - 29 Animal life
 - 30 American physicist: 1872-1935
 - 31 Shorebirds
 - 34 Pindaric
 - 37 — oblige
 - 38 Nursery rhyme
 - 40 Ski lift
 - 41 "The Big" —, 1983 movie
 - 43 Place in the underworld
 - 45 Customer of sorts
 - 48 Airport approach
 - 49 Alias, to Cicero
 - 50 Party line
 - 51 Sheep genus
 - 52 Out of town
 - 53 His —, big shot
 - 56 Somme summer
 - 57 Word with up or down
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**
- ALBA PECIS PIKES
HOOD AROA RAITT
STARRWARS ENQUE
OSTIA TESTS ODE
FILE YOUNGER
HOSTLER EMIL
ALT SANTA ELIOPE
NEAL PAIRS EVOE
GOGOL LOCUS ELL
GOES HEARSAY
CIAPPUN ATRI
OVA ADDORN AGAPE
DERAT FOEGGHORNS
ARTIE DTEA RAIN
STYLE RILL SYNE

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
PAKISTANI WINS WORLD'S RICHEST TOURNEY

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A Q 10 9 8 7
 ♥ K 7 5
 ♦ 4
 ♣ Q 10 6

EAST
 ♠ 2
 ♥ O 8 4 3
 ♦ J 10 8 5 3 2
 ♣ K 8

SOUTH
 ♠ K 4
 ♥ A J 10 9 6 2
 ♦ A K
 ♣ 3 2

The bidding:
 East South West North
 Pass 1 ♣ Dbl 1 ♣
 3 ♣ 3 ♣ 4 ♣ 4 ♣
 Pass Pass 5 ♣ 5 ♣
 Pass Pass Pass

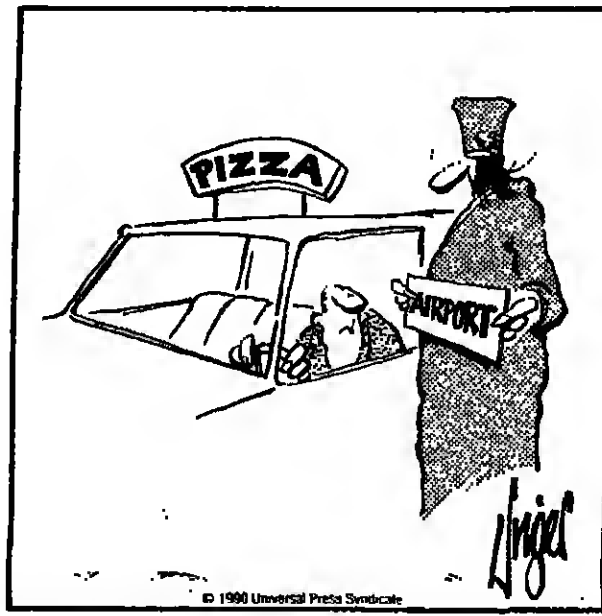
Opening lead: Six of ♠
 The first Omar Sharif World Individual Championship, held last month at the Showboat Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, N.J., attracted players from 13 countries. The winner was Pakistan's globe-trotting internationalist, Zia Mahmood, with U.S. former world champion Fred Hamilton second and Swedish star P.O. Sundelin third.

The great French expert Paul

Chemla had a chance to demonstrate his technique on this hand from the event. East-West took advantage of the vulnerability to push North-South to a precarious five-heart contract, which could have been defeated had West found the inspired lead of a low club away from the ace.

However, West made the more normal opening salvo of his fourth-best diamond, and Chemla wasted no time on the play. He won the king of diamonds and then discarded one of dummy's clubs on the ace of diamonds. A trump to the king revealed the bad news that declarer needed to take two trump finesses in addition to discarding a club from hand on one of dummy's spades, and entries were at a premium.

Chemla continued with the five of trumps off the board and East carefully covered with the eight. After the nine won, declarer led the king of spades and overtook it with the table's ace! Another trump finesse allowed declarer to draw East's remaining trumps, and since the auction had made the hand an open book, declarer had no problem finding the right way to handle the spade suit. He confidently finessed for the jack and one club discard on the queen of spades was enough to land the contract.



Aries
 March 21 - April 20
 If you ask for more than you deserve you will be more disappointed when you do not get it. You should not take everything quite so literally. Avoid eating or drinking more than you know you should. Be less selfish.



Cancer
 June 21 - July 20
 If you think you always know best that is a good reason why you do not. You would do well to take well-meant criticism to heart instead of being offended by it. No need to be optimistic but also no cause for excessive complacency. Be consistent.



Libra
 Sept. 23 - Oct. 23
 You are liable to confuse what is important with what is only trivial. Consider your actions carefully and do not hesitate to change course if requisite. Concentrate carefully on what you are doing. Be sincere.



Capricorn
 Dec. 21 - Jan. 19
 Someone who maintains he is a friend of yours will turn out to be nothing of the kind. By using a little more commonsense you will be able to avoid a pitfall. But do be on the lookout for snares and seek to look beneath the surface. Be reliable.



Taurus
 April 21 - May 20
 What had you had believed to be true will turn out to be nothing of the kind. You should not say exactly what you think or you will give offense. All sorts of exaggerations are to be avoided nor should you think that you do not have to observe certain rules. Be moderate.



Leo
 July 21 - Aug. 21
 You should not think that the way you have always done a certain thing is necessarily the best or 'right' way. Indeed you should always be ready to look for better ways of doing what is routine. And avoid getting into habits that are almost bound to be bad. Be patient.



Scorpio
 Oct. 23 - Nov. 23
 You will be able to make good progress with a personal project. An obstacle will prove to be not as formidable as seemed at first. Do not think you are the only one whose opinion matters. Be candid.



Aquarius
 Jan. 20 - Feb. 19
 Something you had been expecting to happen will, but there will also be an unexpected turn of events. You will have to choose between alternatives that are not palatable, but more by accident than design you will choose the least unpleasant of them.



Gemini
 May 21 - June 20
 Read the instructions carefully before you being using a new device. Do not try to mix business with pleasure, although there is no reason why you should not enjoy your work. Make your partner feel loved and wanted. Be abstemious.



Virgo
 Aug. 23 - Sept. 23
 You should try to show a little more goodwill towards others to forgive a misdemeanor rather than seeking to 'get your own back'. You will get your own way in some but not in all things. Be hopeful.



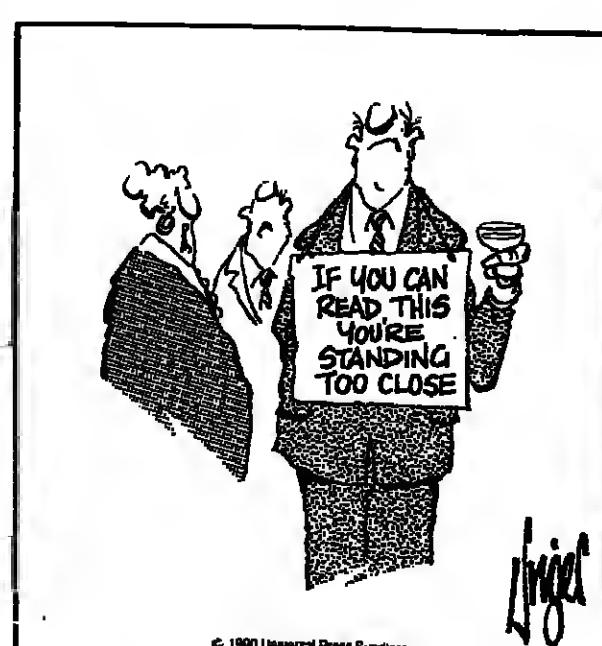
Sagittarius
 Nov. 23 - Dec. 20
 If you do not feel in the best of health do all you can to conserve your energies. And make sure you are dressed correctly for the climate, avoiding draughts. Do not take too much for granted. Be less flustered.



Pisces
 Feb. 20 - March 20
 If you make a few concessions you will be in the end gain more than you lose. Your lucky numbers are 15 and 26. Avoid dissipating your energies. Do not let others wait for you, not even if you are kept waiting by them. Be considerate.



"We're not too happy with the caterers."



"He's not very sociable."

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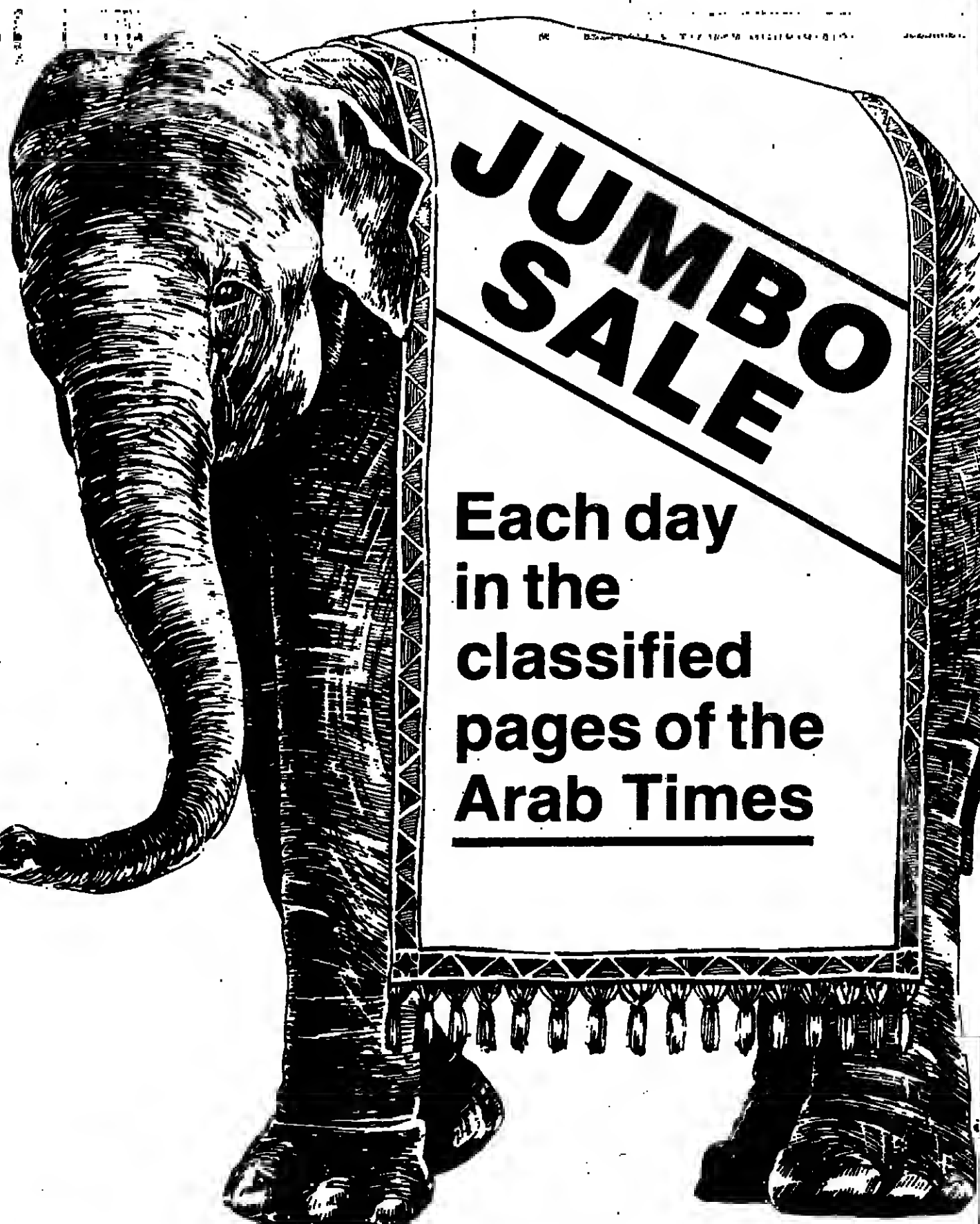
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LOST Indian passport No. Y-022754 in the name of Farah Parvaiz Yusuf in the vicinity of the Iraqi embassy on June 26. Finder please return the passport to Indian embassy or Tel: 2438011 ext 239 (working hours). (AT3-53486-3)

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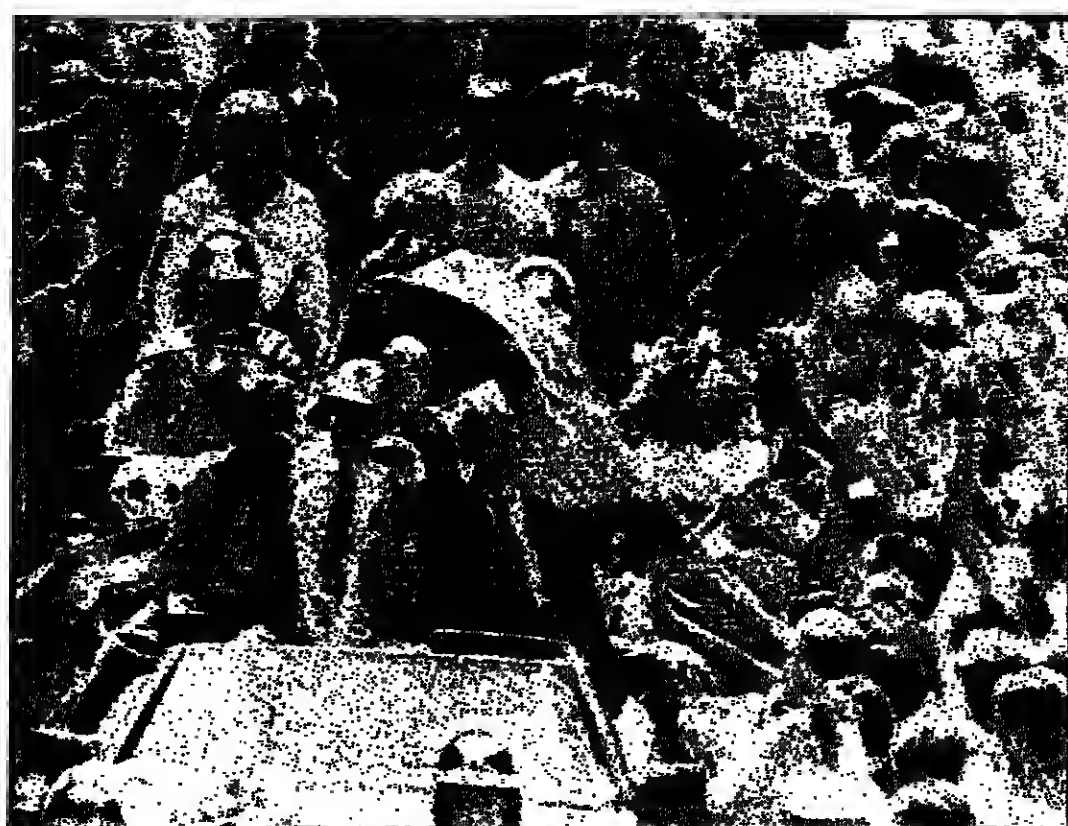
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Thousands of fans welcome W. Germans. (Reuter wirephoto)



Scoreboard at the Olympic Stadium reads 'Goodbye Italy, hello USA '94'. (Reuter wirephoto)

Best team triumphs in World Cup

Tourney hit by controversy; Violence erupts in East Berlin

ROME, July 9, (AP): In a World Cup, punctuated by controversy and injustice, a remarkable thing happened. The best team triumphed.

West Germany, which scored more goals than any other team and always tried to attack, defeated defending champion Argentina 1-0 in an ugly final last night.

The Germans outplayed the Argentines for long periods, but only edged to victory by virtue of an Andreas Brehme penalty six minutes from full time.

It was ironic the deciding goal should come from the penalty spot.

Argentina had the worst disciplinary record of any team in the tournament. It had four players sent off, including two in the final, and 23 cautioned.

It also made it to the final after scoring penalty shootout wins against Yugoslavia in the quarterfinal and Italy in the semifinal.

West Germany joined Italy and Brazil as the only three-time winners of sport's most coveted trophy and ended its run of losses in the final.

The Germans were beaten by Italy in the 1982 final and by Argentina four years ago. This time they got their revenge, although the end of the match was unsavory.

Argentine players, angry and bewildered, surrounded Mexican referee Edgardo Codesal, protesting both the decision to award the late penalty and his dismissal of substitute Pedro Monzon and striker Gustavo Dezotti.

No player had previously been ejected in a World Cup final.

Monzon was guilty of a crude challenge on German striker Juergen Klinsmann, while Dezotti wrestled Juergen Kohler to the ground in the dying minutes.

West German coach Franz

Beckenbauer became the first man in history to both captain and coach a team to victories in the World Cup.

Beckenbauer, who is retiring from coaching, captained the West German team to victory in the 1974 World Cup. It previously won in 1954.

Goalscorer Brehme said team captain Lothar Matthaeus had been assigned to take the penalty if there was one for West Germany during the game.

"But he came and told me that he didn't want to do it. He said: 'Go ahead, shoot it,' Brehme said after the game.

"I was very calm and very confident. I was having a good game and I felt very confident throughout the night."

Brehme said he could not tell if the penalty had been justified. "I am not sure about the penalty, but I am sure that we deserved to win. We could have won by two or three goals."

The spot kick was awarded after defender Roberto Sensi felled striker Rudi Voeller in the penalty area.

Voeller was adamant the Germans deserved their win.

"We attacked and they didn't," he said.

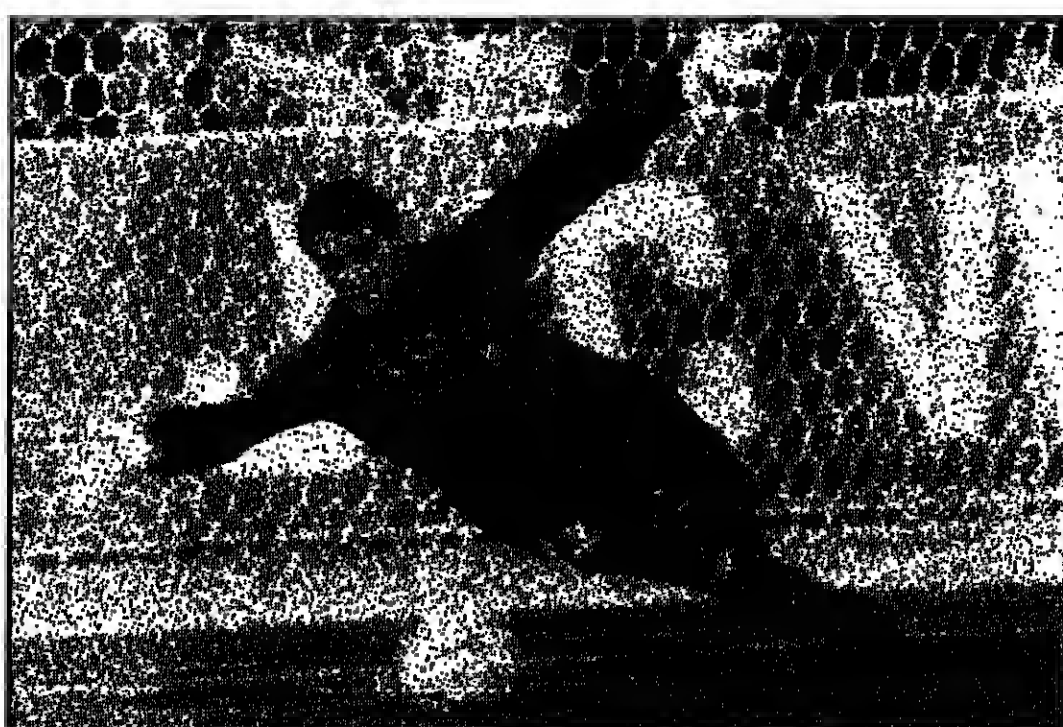
Europe and South America now are level 7-7 in tournament wins.

The unimpressive final was a microcosm of the entire championship, which featured only 115 goals at an average of 2.21 per game — the lowest in history.

The tournament was notable for the lack of skill the players displayed and the predominance of defensive-minded teams.

There was a disappointing dearth of new ideas at dead ball situations and a number of controversial refereeing decisions.

Bobby Charlton, who won a World Cup medal with England in 1966, said the referees had not allowed skills "a chance to



Argentina's goalie Sergio Goycochea tries to stop the penalty shot. (Reuter wirephoto)

flower." Cynicism also played its part in the monthlong tournament, with many teams, including the defending champion, content to foul opponents when they got within sight of goal.

West Germany and Italy were the teams that produced the most entertaining soccer.

But even the Germans, who scored a total of 15 goals in the championship, could only manage one in each of their last three matches.

In a tournament where entertaining soccer was at such a premium, it seemed appropriate the final should be a tight, unexciting affair.

● Violence erupted in East

Berlin yesterday as jubilant crowds from both East and West jammed West Berlin streets to celebrate West Germany's victory.

Hundreds of right-wing youths, wielding clubs and bellowing "Germany, Germany," smashed shop windows along the showcase Alexanderplatz as honking cars raced up and down Unter Den Linden Boulevard.

West Germany erupted into frenzied street celebrations moments after its 1-0 victory over Argentina. East German fans joined a car victory parade in Berlin, no longer a divided city.

Crowds spilled out of bars and homes onto the main Kufuer-

stendamm shopping street in West Berlin.

They waved West German flags and screamed with joy as fireworks displays lit the night sky.

"Germany, Germany," they shouted.

But in East Berlin, masked youths chased Vietnamese workers in an anti-foreigner outburst whipped up by drunkenness. The Vietnamese escaped into a hotel lobby past a porter wielding an iron bar.

Thousands of people, mostly young men, marched up the middle of Unter Den Linden waving fists in the air, some carrying flags emblazoned with the iron cross, the banner of imperial

Germany.

Police were nowhere to be seen.

Hundreds of East German fans watched the game on a giant video screen set up on the steps of the old museum building on Unter Den Linden.

"This victory is especially sweet, especially significant this year because German unification is just around the corner after so many years of waiting," said Andreas Langner, 19.

"We in East Germany were downtrodden for so long, but now unity is approaching and we're the champions isn't it fantastic?" exulted Daniel Giese, 19, waving a West German flag.

Hundreds of smashed beer and wine bottles littered the museum square and along downtown streets.

"It's not healthy for our reputation abroad because the Germans were so overwhelmingly superior in tonight's match. We should think about our (Nazi) past before we go so crazy," said Matthias Krehling, 18, another East Berliner.

Hundreds of people were still pouring into the streets of West Berlin almost an hour after the game ended, many coming in by train from the suburbs.

Police sealed off the Kufuerstendamm Boulevard which was packed with jubilant fans, but motorcades drove along West Berlin's other highways, hooting horns and bedecked with West German flags or the imperial flag.

"Ole, Ole, Ole, Ole," they chanted. "Super Deutschland Ole."

Knowing the only way to attract customers during the World Cup final, many cafes and bars stuck television sets wherever they could.

Lebanese

● Lebanese celebrated West Germany's World Cup soccer triumph yesterday in their favourite way — firing streams of red tracer bullets into Beirut's night sky.

West Germany were the best-supported contenders for the title in Lebanon where German soccer and its superstars are familiar as television stations broadcast games from the German League every week.



Andreas Brehme smiles as he holds the World Cup. (Reuter wirephoto)



German fans (above and below) celebrate their team's victory. (Reuter wirephoto)



Leading all-time goalscorers

ROME, July 9, (UPI): Leading all-time World Cup goalscorers: 1930 Uruguay: Guillermo Stabile, Argentina, 8 goals, 1934 Italy: (tied) Oldrich Nejedly, Czechoslovakia, 4 and Angelo Schiavo, Italy, 4 and Edmund Cohen, Germany, 4. 1938 France: Leonidas, Brazil, 8. 1950 Brazil: Ademir, Brazil, 9. 1954 Switzerland: Sandor Kocsis, Hungary 11. 1958 Sweden: Just Fontaine, France, 13. 1962;

Chile: Drazen Jerkovic, Yugoslavia, 5. 1966 England: Eusebio, Portugal, 9. 1970 Mexico: Gerd Mueller, West Germany, 10. 1974 West Germany: Grzegorz Lato, Poland, 7. 1978 Argentina: Mario Kempes, Argentina, 6. 1982 Spain: Paolo Rossi, Italy, 6. 1986 Mexico: Gary Lineker, England, 6. 1990 Italy: Salvatore Schillaci, Italy, 6.

Breakdown of World Cup final facts

	Argentina	W Germany
Goals	0	1
Shots on goal	0	5
Shots off target	1	11
Corners	2	2
Red cards	2	0
Yellow cards	3	1



Beckenbauer (right) is hugged by a team trainer. (Reuter wirephoto)



West German fans with unusual headgear watch the match. (Reuter wirephoto)

Cup ceremony confuses Matthaeus

ROME, July 9, (Reuter): Italy brought its own style and sense of theatre to the representation ceremony at the end of the World Cup final yesterday, utterly confusing winning West German captain Lothar Matthaeus.

Matthaeus stepped up to the VIP podium after West Germany's 1-0 win over Argentina, expecting to be handed the trophy by Italian President Francesco Cossiga.

But the Italian organisers had other ideas.

First, the 22-man squad and team chief Franz Beckenbauer had to wait until a troop of bare-shouldered women in flowing white robes and head-dresses representing famous Roman monuments lined up either side of the podium.

Three more women in gold tiaras fashioned to spell out the word Roma filed out to the centre circle to wave huge West German flags.

As the lights in Rome's Olympic Stadium dimmed and pink flares were set off around the pitch to the accompaniment of a recording of Luciano Pavarotti, the West Germans were allowed to line up for their winners' medals.

Matthaeus held out his hands for the FIFA World Cup but was told to wait until the medals had been presented.

He turned and shrugged his shoulders at his teammates in amused bewilderment.

Finally, with lasers lighting up the sky and the message "Ciao Italia, hello USA '94," flashing from the stadium's scoreboard screens, Matthaeus was allowed to lift the trophy.

From then on the new champions held centre stage, circling the track to salute their fans pursued by scores of photographers.



Maradona is shown the yellow card by the referee. (Reuter wirephoto)

ROME, July 9, (Reuter): World Cup statistics after yesterday's final. Goals scored: 115 in 52 matches, average 2.21 per game (1986 average 2.54, record average 5.3 - 1954).

Leading individual scorer: 6 - Salvatore Schillaci (Italy).

Most individual goals in one match: 3 - Michel (Spain) v South Korea, Thomas Skuhravy (Czechoslovakia) v Costa Rica.

Highest team aggregate: West Germany 15.

Highest team score in one match: Czechoslovakia 5 v United States, West Germany 5 v United Arab Emirates.

Best match aggregate: 6 - Czechoslovakia 3 v USA, West Germany 5 v United Arab Emirates 1.

Best goalkeeping record: Walter Zenga (Italy) 518 minutes without conceding a goal.

Fastest goal: Safet Susic (Yugoslavia) fourth minute v United Arab Emirates.

Players sent off: 16 - Eric Wynalda (US), Peter Artner (Austria), Andre Kana-Biyik (Cameroon), Benjamin Masing (Cameroon), Vladimir Besonov (Soviet Union), Khalil Ghannam (United Arab Emirates), Eric Geres (Belgium), Yoon Deuk-Yeo (South Korea), Ricardo Gomez (Brazil), Frank Rijkaard (Netherlands), Rudi Voeller (West Germany), Refik Sabanadzovic (Yugoslavia), Lubomir Moravcik (Czechoslovakia), Ricardo Gualdi (Argentina), Pedro Monzon (Argentina), Gustavo Dezotti (Argentina).

Total number of players booked: 170.

فكر اصابك



Andreas Brehme leaps in the air after scoring. (Reuter wirephoto)



The Germans carry the trophy on a victory lap. (Reuter wirephoto)

Maradona's reign as king of soccer ends in tears

ROME, July 9, (Reuter): Diego Armando Maradona's turbulent reign as the undisputed king of world soccer ended in tears yesterday.

The Argentine captain, clearly not fully fit, touched the ball only about a dozen times during a scrappy World Cup final which his side lost 1-0 to West Germany.

Almost 30 and past his best, Maradona closed his international career with a booking for complaining to the referee and with the whistles of the 73,000 crowd ringing in his ears.

Weeping openly, the stocky midfielder genius led his dejected team on to the podium to collect their runners-up medals four years after lifting the Cup in Mexico.

"The final will be the last big occasion of my career," Maradona said before the match, adding that he would not play for the national side again.

"It's time to hand over the captain's armband," he said.

Maradona went into the game cursing the crowd for booing his country's

national anthem — a reaction to Argentina's semifinal win over Italy on Tuesday.

The player who dominated world football for a decade made his League debut in Argentina when only 15 years old, a prodigy who had already entertained crowds at halftime with his ball-juggling skills.

Born in a Buenos Aires slum, he was given his first football as an infant and slept with it under his arm.

The affection was mutual and Maradona began to show unrivalled skills in local League football.

At 17, he just missed inclusion in Argentina's 1978 World Cup winning squad but quickly got over the disappointment by leading Argentina to triumph in the World Youth Cup a year later.

His marvellous close control, free-kicks and passing had already attracted attention from wealthy European clubs and Barcelona signed him after the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

The 1982 tournament was a bitter

experience for the headstrong Maradona, still unused to the brutal marking that was to follow him throughout his career.

Provoked by defensive hit-men and frustrated by Argentina's poor performance, he was sent off for a blatant foul against Brazil in the early rounds.

From then on Maradona, controversy and the World Cup walked hand-in-hand.

Four years later he led his country to victory in Mexico with a series of inspiring displays that left even his strongest critics gasping in admiration.

But his quarterfinal performance against England, which featured a classic dribbling goal the halfway line, was marred by the notorious 'hand of God' incident.

Maradona had somehow stretched above the towering goalkeeper Peter Shilton to punch home the ball, later claiming a dubious case of divine intervention.

By then a multi-million-dollar Napoli player after a couple of barren years in

Spain, Maradona reinforced his world's number one status by leading the previously unfashionable club to two League titles.

His soccer love affair with the southern city was always likely to lead to controversy when Italy geared up for this World Cup. It did.

At Maradona's behest, Naples crowds flocked to support Argentina in the first round. But elsewhere, Italian crowds booed his every move.

When Argentina returned to Naples for their semifinal against the host country he was accused of trying to stoke up regional rivalry to garner support for his team.

His side's unexpected victory — the latest in a string of fortunate escapes — was summed up by an Italian newspaper headline 'Maradona is the devil'.

Two days later he was involved in a fracas with Italian security officials and claimed the entire country was plotting against him.

"I hope Italy will forgive me," he said on the eve of the West German game.



West Germany's Lothar Matthaus (right) and Pierre Littbarski scream with joy. (Reuter wirephoto)



Maradona is consoled by a trainer. (Reuter wirephoto)

Maradona disputes penalty kick

Menem criticises referee

ROME, July 9, (Reuter): Diego Maradona accused the Mexican referee whose penalty decision sank Argentina in the World Cup final yesterday of awarding the spot kick to please FIFA and avoid a shoot-out.

The Argentine captain said Edgardo Codasal "didn't award a penalty to Gabriel Calderon but he did give one to Rudi Voeller."

"There's something strange here. Unfortunately we paid for it in the final," said Maradona after the match West Germany won 1-0 through Andreas Brehme's 84th minute spot kick.

Voeller was cut down by Roberto Sensi as he tried to race round the defender in the penalty area.

Argentina appealed for a penalty when Calderon tumbled in the penalty area in the second half but the referee waved play on.

"Codasal was scared of getting to a penalty shoot-out. West Germany were falling away."

"They were clearly better than Argentina. But they couldn't score," Maradona said.

"That's why I say Codasal saw no better than to award a penalty

to take the Cup from us." Maradona said the referee did this to "make the Italians, his boss (Fifa) and everybody happy. There was something fishy."

Coach Carlos Bilardo refused to comment on the referee.

"I never give opinions about the referees, or if it was or wasn't a penalty," Bilardo said.

Bilardo said nagging injuries robbed him of 1986 veterans Oscar Ruggeri and Jorge Burruchaga for the second half.

"Any national team in the world is debilitated when you take away five or six of their best players," Bilardo said.

Argentina had four leading players suspended before the final.

Argentine President Carlos Menem also criticised the refereeing.

"He should stick to medicine and not carry on damaging sport," Menem said, referring to Codasal's profession of gynaecologist.

Speaking to reporters after watching the match at the Casa Rosada (Pink House) government house soccer fanatic Menem said: "I have just heard

that (West German manager) Franz Beckenbauer said it was not a penalty and this sort of thing weighs in the final of a world championship. What a pity that with this penalty the referee tipped (the match) in favour of Germany."

Menem said Argentina should have been awarded a penalty for a foul on Calderon and also questioned the second-half expulsion of Pedro Monzon.

"He should have been given a yellow card and not the red card right away," Menem said.

Fans who had watched the match on giant screens set up in the city centre bitterly criticised Codasal, who was born in neighbouring Uruguay and later took Mexican nationality, for favouring West Germany.

In an interview broadcast on Argentine television Bilardo said that while Germany was on top in the first half he felt Argentina had the game under control in the second half.

"The team fought tooth and claw. To be runner up is a matter of pride for any manager," said Bilardo, who has announced his retirement from the game.



Brehme celebrates his goal. (Reuter wirephoto)

Schillaci top scores with six

ROME, July 9, (AP): Salvatore Schillaci arrived at the World Cup as Italy's reserve striker. He left it as leading scorer.

Probably the player who made the biggest impact on the 24-team competition, Schillaci wound up with six goals, one more than Czechoslovakia's Tomas Skuhravy.

England's Gary Lineker, who top-scored also with six in the last World Cup in Mexico four years ago, was one of four players on four goals. The others were Roger Milla of Cameroon, Michel of Spain and West German captain Lothar Matthaus.

A 25-year-old Sicilian, Schillaci was Italy's third choice striker behind Gianluca Vialli and Andrea Carnevale. But the Juventus striker made his mark in Italy's first game against Austria by scoring the only goal after entering the game as substitute.

Like Paolo Rossi, another Juventus striker, eight years previously, Schillaci took on the role as Italy's scorer and collected goals frequently and consistently. Like Rossi, he scored six times.

Dramatic
The World Cup final was a dramatic illustration of the drawing power of Italy's wealthy clubs — a total of 13 players from Argentina and West Germany play in the Italian League.

Two of the Germans, defender Thomas Berthold and striker Rudi Voeller, must have felt particularly at home because the final was played on the home ground of their Roma club.

Argentina's Pedro Troglio was also familiar with the surroundings — his club Lazio shares the Olympic stadium with Roma.

Five other members of the Argentine team play in the Italian league, the richest in the world.

They are captain Diego Maradona, who led Napoli to two League titles, Nestor Lorenzo of Bari, Roberto Sensi and Abel Balbo of Udinese and Gustavo Dezotti of Cremonese.

West German captain Lothar Matthaus, Andreas Brehme and Jurgen Klinsmann play for Inter Milan, while Karlheinz Riedle and Thomas Haessler recently signed for Lazio and Juventus respectively.



The victorious West German team. (Reuter wirephoto)

Kaiser Franz abdicates in style

ROME, July 9, (Reuter): 'Kaiser Franz,' abandoned his usual cool reserve and flung up his arms in joy as his moment of abdication became the moment of his greatest triumph yesterday.

The Kaiser, alias Franz Beckenbauer, could hardly wait for the final whistle which signalled both the end of his term as West German manager and the crowning glory of his career, a second World Cup victory.

"There is nothing more to win," he said immediately after West Germany's 1-0 defeat of Argentina in the World Cup final was assured.

As the whistle went, the imperious and normally ice-cool Beckenbauer rushed on to the pitch punching the air, embracing his assistants and then captain Lothar Matthaus and the other players.

The match was Beckenbauer's 66th and last as manager of a West German team he took over six years ago when they were at a low ebb.

He took the team to the World Cup final four years ago in Mexico only to suffer the disappointment of defeat — to Argentina.

Reversing the roles yesterday made Beckenbauer only the second man to win the World Cup both as player and manager. The first was Brazil's Mario Zagalo.

"It's wonderful to win the World Cup," he said. "It makes no difference whether you win it as a player or as a coach."

As his players took a victory lap around Rome's

Olympic stadium, greeted by tens of thousands of West German supporters and a sea of black, red and yellow German flags, Beckenbauer walked slowly and alone to the centre of the pitch.

He was able to savour victory briefly away from the limelight after eight weeks of intense public scrutiny as he prepared his squad to meet their destiny.

Around his neck was his second World Cup winner's medal. As a player, Beckenbauer captained West Germany to victory in the 1974 finals on home soil.

The victory lap completed, Beckenbauer rejoined his players for a joyful celebration team photo and, despite a scrum of photographers, managed to have a brief word with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who had also taken to the pitch.

Beckenbauer typically entertained no doubts about the right team becoming world champions.

"Victory was well earned," he said. "No other team earned it like the German team did. We played well in seven games, some of them magnificently."

Ironically, Beckenbauer's stint as West Germany's manager ended against the same opponents as it began. But in 1984 when he took over, he had to suffer West Germany's worst defeat for 27 years as they lost 3-1 to Argentina in Duesseldorf.

Beckenbauer announced last year that he would leave the job after the 1990 World Cup finals, win or lose.

Davis KO's Breland to clinch WBA title

RENO, Nevada, July 9. (Reuters): Aaron Davis, his right eye almost completely shut for six rounds, knocked out champion Mark Breland with four seconds left in the ninth round to win the World Boxing Association welterweight title yesterday.

Davis, a 6-1 underdog at local sports books, put Breland down for the second and last time in the fight with a short right hand to the head. Breland stayed down for more than 1-1/2 minutes and was taken to a local hospital for examination.

Breland also was knocked down in the third round on a series of left hooks to the head.

Ringside doctor Jim McLennan said Breland, whose only other loss was to fellow-American Marlon Starling, suffered a concussion and would likely be released after brief tests.

Davis, 23, remains unbeaten in 30 professional fights. Breland, 27, is now 27-1.

Breland's promoter, Dan Duva, said at the post-fight press conference, which Breland did not attend: "I can't speak for Mark, but I'm sure that he'll be back."

Davis, from Brooklyn, New York as is Breland, led on two of the three judges' scorecards, when the scheduled 12-round fight ended.

Davis also was sent to the hospital to have his right eye examined. The new champion said he had been tumbled in the eye in the first round. By the fourth round, Davis's eye was almost completely closed.

It was checked between each round by McLennan from then on.

Referee Mills Lane stopped the action early in the sixth round to have the doctor examine Davis' eye.

"I kept telling the doctor 'don't stop the fight,'" Davis said. "I knew I could beat Mark. It was just a matter of time. But one time he hit me and I saw three people standing there. I could see out of my other eye fine. I was not going back to New York as a loser."

Ghirotto first on 9th stage

GENEVA, July 9. (Reuters): Italy's Massimo Ghirotto outspun the breakaway group of Eduardo Chozas of Spain today to win the ninth stage of the Tour de France, the last stage before the race moves into the Alps.

Ghirotto and Chozas, both former stage winners in the three-week race, crossed the line in four hours 46 minutes and seven seconds after a 80-km ride in the front.

Frenchman Christophe Lavainne launched a late chase 10 kms before the finish in Geneva to snatch third place, 16 seconds behind.

The main bunch, including overall leader Steve Bauer, crossed the line in blazing sunshine 36 seconds behind Ghirotto, at the end of an eventful 196-km stage which gave the 186 riders their first taste of the gaudy climbs to come.

Ghirotto, a holding 29-year-old, and Chozas, a born climber who has already won three



Lemond (left) in action during the 9th stage (Reuters wirephoto)

mountain stages in 1985, 1986 and 1987, launched the decisive charge in the main ascent of the day, the Col des Rousses. They built up a lead of two and a half minutes in the valley over a nervous bunch, constantly led by defending champion Greg Lemond of the United States and his team mates.

Despite numerous attempts to catch them alongside Lake Geneva, the two managed to hold on to their lead until the finish, where the thickest Italian easily outprinted his accomplice.

Ghirotto last enjoyed a stage-win in the Pyrenees two years ago after the race leaders accidentally missed the last bend.

'A final to make you cry'

ROME, July 9. (Reuters): Argentina's World Cup squad flew out of Italy today, chased by banner headlines condemning their brutal performance in the final.

"A final to make you cry" read the headline in Italy's Gazzetta dello Sport, adding that the tournament had ended in tears of joy, anger and disgust.

"The fact that Argentina got its comeuppance after an unbelievable run of luck failed to raise the tone of a final which everyone except the Germans will want to forget," the paper added.

Stampa Sera newspaper described the match in which Argentina's Pedro Monzon and Gustavo Dezotti were sent off as one of the ugliest World Cup finals ever.

The two red cards and the penalty which gave West Germany a 1-0 victory were all highly dubious decisions by Mexican referee Edgardo Codas, according to the host nation's press.

"The refereeing was the final debacle of this disappointing World Cup," said Rome's Il Messaggero.

Italy's criticism was echoed around the world.

Swiss tabloid Blick wondered if the "Sons from the Pampas" had gone mad with the full moon. "They were the same destructive Argentines — waiting for their chance and setting their hopes right from the beginning on a penalty shoot-out."

Zurich paper Sport also questioned the penalty decision and said "wild attacks" by Argentine players on the referee, even after the final whistle, were unworthy of World Cup finalists.

Geneva daily La Tribune de Geneve said the match was one of the worst finals in history, marred throughout by the "anti-play" of the Argentine team.

British newspapers voiced the same opinions. "Scum" screamed the Sun, describing the match as a "disgraceful and violent sham."

"Diego Maradona's face was wet with tears, but he should not have cried for Argentina or for himself," said the Daily Express. "He should have cried for football. This was the World Cup final that betrayed the game."

Another tabloid, Today, added: "The disgraceful sight of two players being sent off ruined the occasion that is expected to set the standard and the tone of world football."

The Guardian said: "The Olympic Stadium loathed Maradona last night and the loathing was shrill and long."

Sweden's Dagens Nyheter commented: "Argentina's reputation has sunk to rock bottom. Maradona and company had too little talent to deserve a place in the football world's biggest single event."

French sports paper L'Equipe said the German victory owed more to a referee overwhelmed by events and the weakness of Argentina rather than to their own strength.

The Spanish press considered the final a fitting tribute to a "grey" tournament. "A dull final closed an unattractive World Cup," said leading daily El Pais.

Diario 16 added: "Codasal did his bit for German reunification."

"The cynical Argentines suffered a just defeat," said Belgium's Het Nieuwsblad. "There is justice," said La Derniere Heure.

(See also Pages 20 & 21)

Tendulkar hits Kent for 90

India score 234 for five



Tendulkar (left) and Manjiv Kumar, put on 50 runs for the 2nd wicket.

CANTERBURY, England, July 9. (Reuters): India's 17-year-old batsman Sachin Tendulkar lived up to his tall reputation with a fine 92 against county side Kent on the second day of their three-day cricket game yesterday.

Tendulkar, who had to open the innings with wicketkeeper Kiran More because both scheduled openers were ill, settled into the role well.

He and More took 50 runs off the first ten overs but, at 75, More was out for 35.

Tendulkar and Sanjay Manjivkar (20) then added 50 off the next 18 overs and Tendulkar had made 92 out of 154 when he was third out. He hit 14 fours.

When Dilip Vengsarkar reached 50 India declared at 234 for five, 116 behind. Kent reached 25 for no wicket at the close.

Kent had declared their first innings at 350 for three. Neil Taylor (107) and Graham Goudrey (44) extended their third wicket stand to 99 off 25 overs.

Scoreboard

KENT first innings (overnight 257 for 1 wicket)

S. Hinks b Raju 62

M. Benson b Hirwani 50

N. Taylor not out 107

G. Goudrey c Moore b Wassen 44

C. Cowdrey not out 20

Extras (b-7 lb-8 w-2 nb-10) 27

Total (for three wickets, declared) 350

Fall of wickets: 1-126 2-196 3-295

Did not bat: M. Fleming, S. Marsh, R. Ellison, C. Penn, T. Marrick, R. Davis.

Bowling: Kapil Dev 21-6-58-0, Prabhakar 10-1-34-1, Sharma 11-3-37-0, Hirwani 14-2-41-1, Raju 14-7-27-1.

INDIA first innings

K. More c Taylor b Fleming 32

S. Tendulkar c Davis b Merrick 92

S. Manjivkar c Davis b Penn 20

D. Vengsarkar not out 35

Kapil Dev c Ellison b Davis 17

S. Raju lbw b Penn 4

S. Sharma not out 13

Extras (b-3 nb-3) 6

Total (for five wickets, declared) 234

Fall of wickets: 1-75 2-125 3-154 4-189 5-204

Did not bat: R. Shashin (Capt), M. Prabhakar, A. Wassen, N. Hirwani.

Bowling: Merrick 17-2-75-1, Penn 16-2-40-2, Davis 23-4-66-1, G. Goudrey 1-1-0-0, Ellison 11-2-27-0, Fleming 8-3-23-1.

KENT second innings

S. Marsh not out 16

M. Fleming not out 8

Extras (lb-1) 1

Total 25

Seattle beat Toronto

TORONTO, July 9. (AP): Matt Young pitched a three-hitter and Henry Cotto hit a two-run homer as Seattle Mariners ended Toronto Blue Jays' five-game winning streak, with a 6-3 victory in an American League match.

Young (3-9) struck out seven and walked four for the Mariners, who stopped a two-game losing streak and won for the eighth time in 11 games.

Twins 5, Yankees 3

Greg Gagne homered and drove in two runs as Minnesota sent the Yankees to their 50th loss of the season on the last day before the All-Star break.

Young (3-9) struck out seven and walked four for the Mariners, who stopped a two-game losing streak and won for the eighth time in 11 games.

Twins 5, Yankees 3

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Seattle beat Toronto

Tim Leary (3-12) lost his eighth consecutive decision since May 23, one short of the Yankees club record. He gave up five runs and eight hits in 4-2-3 innings.

Orlans 8, White Sox 6

Mike Devereaux hit a two-run, two-out double in the 11th inning as Baltimore rallied.

Bobby Thigpen (4-3) walked Steve Finley to open the 11th. Craig Worthington bunted and both runners were safe when Thigpen's throw to second was late.

Results

National League

Houston 5 Montreal 3

Philadelphia 4 Cincinnati 3

N.Y. Mets 2 Atlanta 1

1. San Francisco 2 Chicago Cubs 3

2. San Francisco 10 Chicago Cubs 4

Pittsburgh 7 Los Angeles 2

St. Louis 4 San Diego 1

American League

Minnesota 6 N.Y. Yankees 3

Detroit 10 Kansas City 4

Seattle 6 Toronto 3

Baltimore 8 Chicago 6

Milwaukee 20 California W 6

Oakland 8 Cleveland 3

Texas 4 Boston 3

Three-way tie for lead

MANILA, July 9. (Reuters): Boris Gelfand of the Soviet Union beat Yugoslavia's Predrag Nikolic today and forged a three-way tie for first place with compatriots Mikhail Gurevich and Vassily Ivanchuk in the Manila chess interzonal competitions.

Gelfand, 22, playing white, forced Nikolic to resign in 42 moves of a Slav defence. He posted a total of 6.5 points after nine rounds in a tournament to decide the challengers for the 1993 World Championship.

Also at 6.5 points were Ivanchuk, a 21-year-old student from Lbuh in the Ukraine, and Gurevich, who drew in 22 moves of a Gruenfeld defence.

Gurevich, 31, held a one-pawn advantage but could not find a winning line against Ivanchuk's solid play.

Viktor Korchnoi of Switzerland, twice challenger for the world title, hatted 21-year-old Alexei Dreev of the Soviet Union to a 4-3 move draw while Hungarian Gyula Sax drew with Branko Damjanovic of Yugoslavia in 42.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Italian striker

ROME, July 9. (Reuters): Italian striker Salvatore Schillaci said yesterday he was not interested in lucrative new contracts despite his personal success at the World Cup and wanted to extend his contract with Juventus. Schillaci, a Second Division player little more than a year ago, has not allowed the occasion to overcome him despite becoming a national hero after scoring six goals.

Fair play

ROME, July 9. (Reuters): England received the World Cup fair play award from Fifa yesterday. They had the fewest players booked among the 24 finalists.

Argentine chief

ROME, July 9. (Reuters): Argentina may try to emulate West Germany's World Cup-winning formula by appointing former captain Daniel Passarella as their next national team coach. Passarella, currently in charge of Argentine champions River Plate, led the victorious 1978 side under Cesar Menotti, currently heading the campaign for a return to the open, attacking soccer which gave them their first world crown.

Wadkins wins

WILLIAMSBURG, Virginia, July 9. (Reuters): Lanny Wadkins, never seriously challenged on the final round, fired a final-round 68 to win his first tournament in two years in capturing the Anheuser-Busch golf tournament by five strokes yesterday.

Paez triumphs

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, July 9. (Reuters): International Boxing Federation featherweight champion Jorge Paez of Mexico retained his title yesterday with a 12-round draw against number-three challenger Troy Dorsey of the United States.

Bisset Games

OSLO, July 9. (Reuters): Carl Lewis, the fastest man in the world over 100 metres, is to meet European champion Linford Christie in the Bisset Games in Oslo on Saturday. "Carl Lewis has said he will run the 100 metres against Linford Christie, England's best sprinter," said the director of the meeting Svein Arne Hansen.

Biondi beaten

SANTA CLARA, California, July 9. (AP): Nils Rudolph of East Germany stole the spotlight from American Olympian Matt Biondi for the second day in a row, beating him in the 100-metre freestyle yesterday at the Santa Clara Invitational Swim Meet.

Loss avenged

HENLEY-ON-THAMES, England, July 9. (AP): Harvard University yesterday avenged a loss in last year's ladies plate final, beating London University by more than three lengths in the Henley Royal Regatta division for heavyweights eights. Harvard encountered heavy wind after 25 strokes but recovered quickly.

Four killed

BONN, July 9. (UPI): Four people died, dozens were injured and 88 arrested as tens of thousands of Germans celebrated West Germany's 1-0 victory over Argentina at the World Cup in Bonn, police said today. Police officials said three people were killed in car crashes in West Germany while they took part in massive street celebrations last night. An 18-year-old was killed in Cologne when he leaped out of a broken window of a moving streetcar and smashed his head against a lamp-post. (See also Pages 20 & 21)



Gelfand takes a closer look at his pieces. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bubka returns to competition

NICE, France, July 9. (Reuters): Sergei Bubka returns to the venue where he set the latest of his nine world pole vault records when he takes part in Tuesday's Nice Grand Prix athletics meeting.

The 26-year-old Ukrainian — the first man to vault six metres — has been out of competition for three weeks with a leg injury.

Linford Christie, Europe's leading sprinter, has an early chance for revenge against Leroy Burrell, the young American who beat him over 100 metres in Stockholm last week.

"I have got to beat the Americans if I'm going to be the world number one. Christie remarked after that defeat."

Maradona not on World Cup star team

ROME, July 9. (Reuters): Argentine captain Diego Maradona failed to score in the World Cup finals or find a place in Reuters selection of the best players of the tournament.

Champions West Germany and hosts Italy each had four players in the World Cup team of stars but losing finalists Argentina could not even find a place on the substitutes bench.

The team of the tournament, chosen after a straw poll of international sports journalists, was as follows:

Taffarel (Brazil); Jorginho (Brazil); Giuseppe Bergomi (Italy); Franco Barresi (Italy); Guido Buchwald (West Germany); Andreas Bruchmann (West Germany); Roberto Donadoni (Italy); Lothar Matthaus (West Germany); Enzo Scifo (Belgium); Salvatore Schillaci (Italy); Juergen Klinsmann (West Germany).

Substitutes: Luis Conjejo (Costa Rica); Branco (Brazil); Des Walker (England); Dragan Stojkovic (Yugoslavia); Roger Milla (Cameroon).

Edberg and Becker world's best on grass courts

LONDON, July 9. (Reuters): Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker are streets ahead when it comes to playing tennis on grass.

For the past three years they have dominated the men's singles at Wimbledon, the most famous grass court, disputing all three finals.

Although the Swedish third seed went 3-1 up on Becker in their personal battle for grass court supremacy in yesterday's final his tight five-set victory showed there is nothing between them on this surface.

Becker, the West German defending champion, certainly thinks so. "It seems we are the two best grass court players around," he said.

World number one Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia may have pursued his first Wimbledon title with the zeal of a crusader, but he was still unable to solve the low bounces of the Wimbledon courts as he succumbed to Edberg in straight sets in the semifinal.

Australian Pat Cash, who won the last final before the Edberg-Becker era in 1987, may soon challenge them again. But a three-set defeat by Becker in the fourth round showed that he still



Becker (left) and Edberg in action during the final. (Reuters wirephoto)

bas work to do after recovering from a ruptured Achilles tendon that kept him out of the game for a year.

The younger players are not yet ready, though Yugoslav teenager Goran Ivanisevic hatted into the semifinals where he lost in four sets to Becker.

American John McEnroe, three times the champion, failed miserably in his attempt to come back from injury at 31. He went out in the first round to US compatriot Derek Rostagno but insisted that this was just the beginning and that his age was no barrier to recapturing his former glory.

Ten of the 16 men's seeds failed to reach their projected fourth-round places after a tournament of bloodletting that began with the demise of 16th-seeded Frenchman Yannick Noah on day one and continued with the departure of McEnroe, French Open champion Andre Gomez of Ecuador and American Tim Mayotte, seeded four, five and six, on day two.

There will be renewed calls, first made last year, for an extra week between the end of the clay-court French Open and the start of Wimbledon for the players to

acclimatise to grass.

The move is said to be favoured by the top names but opposed by the middle and lower-ranking players.

Martina Navratilova, the Czechoslovak-born American, finally achieved the record ninth women's title which has become her raison d'etre and which has been denied her in the last two finals by West German Steffi Graf.

Navratilova, 33, knew this was her best chance after the two players she might have feared most, Graf and French Open champion Monica Seles of Yugoslavia, had both been eliminated by American fifth seed Zina Garrison.

She knows that Graf, off her game as she coped with sinus trouble and unsettling press

reports about her father's private life, will be back ever stronger next year and that Seles, and Florida 14-year-old Jennifer Capriati, will pose greater threats in future.

But she vowed to return anyway next year to pursue number 10. "As long as my body is willing, I am," she said.

Garrison, beaten by Navratilova in the women's singles final, had the consolation of winning the mixed doubles at Wimbledon yesterday.

She and fellow American Rick Leach, the third seeds, captured the title 7-6 6-2 in a final against Australian fourth seeds Liz Smylie and John Fitzgerald. Garrison lost 6-4 6-1 to Navratilova.

Leach and Jim Pugh, the top seeds, took the men's doubles title on Saturday with a 7-6 7-6 7-6 triumph over the second seeds, South Africans Pieter Aldrich and Danie Visser.

The women's doubles went for the second successive year to Czechoslovak Helene Sukova and Jana Novotna, who inflicted another defeat on Smylie in the final.

Smylie and American Kathy Jordan went down 6-3 6-4.